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OPINION METER

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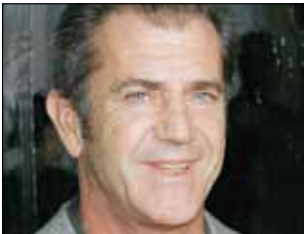
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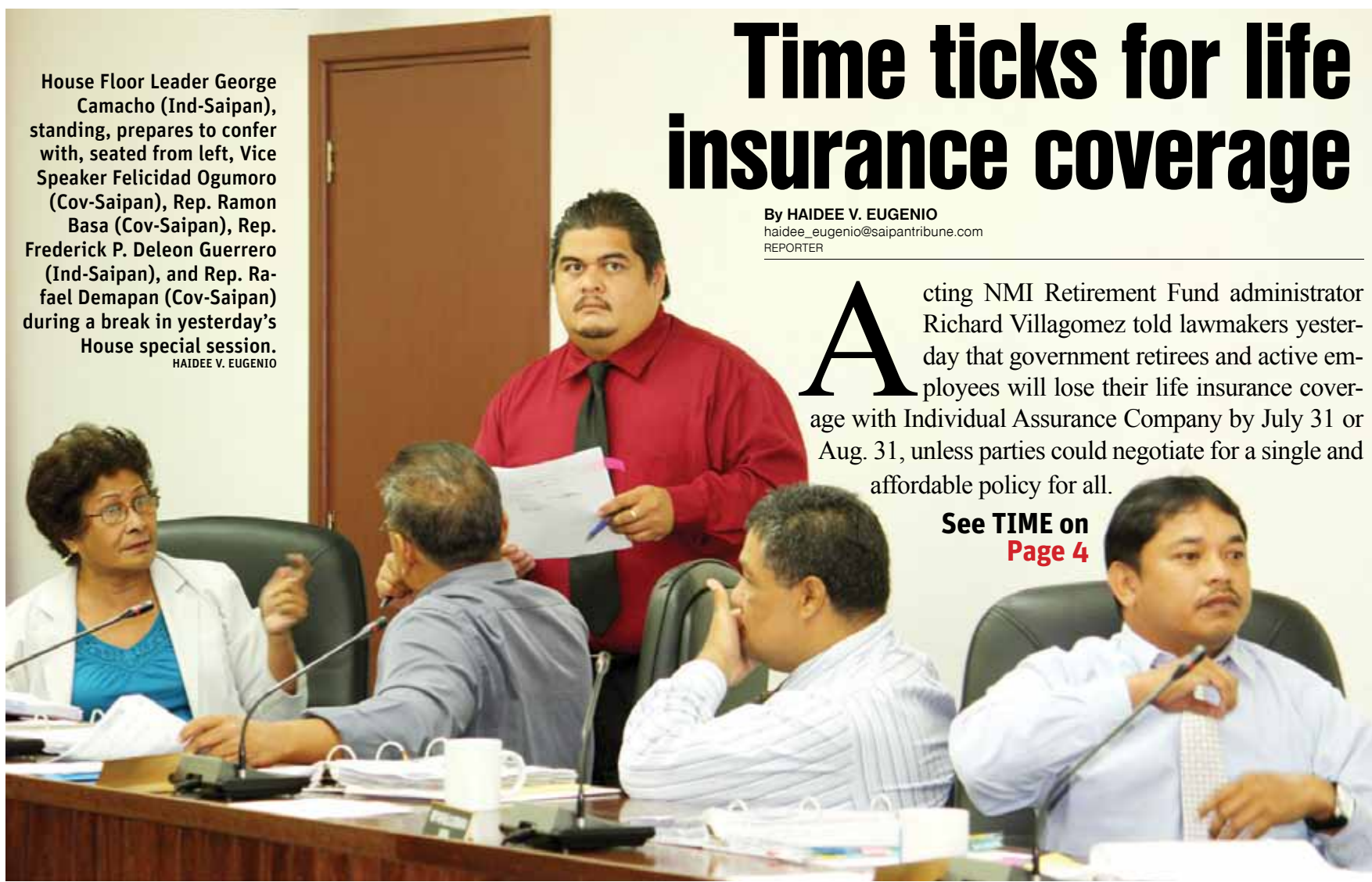
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Time ticks for life insurance coverage

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Acting NMI Retirement Fund administrator Richard Villagomez told lawmakers yesterday that government retirees and active employees will lose their life insurance coverage with Individual Assurance Company by July 31 or Aug. 31, unless parties could negotiate for a single and affordable policy for all.

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House Floor Leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan), standing, prepares to confer with, seated from left, Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Ramon Basa (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Frederick P. DeLeon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), and Rep. Rafael Demapan (Cov-Saipan) during a break in yesterday's House special session.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

House OKs multi-million pension obligation bond

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

On an 18-0 vote, the House of Representatives approved late yesterday afternoon a legislative initiative amending the Constitution to allow the gov-

ernment to borrow hundreds of millions of dollars to pay off its debt to the NMI Retirement Fund.

House Legislative Initiative 17-1 does not specify an amount proposed to be borrowed but the negotiating committee and

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'Good arguments on both sides of the NMI immigration divide'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

There are strong arguments based on precedents to support the position that the CNMI's Public Law 17-1, the omnibus immigration

law, is arguably preempted, according to Hofstra University School of Law faculty member Professor Rose Cui-son Villazor.

"When something is preempted, when a law is pre-

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Continental's mobile boarding pass service is now on Saipan



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Continental Airlines passenger service manager Sylvia Crafton demonstrates how the mobile boarding pass works at the Saipan International Airport while Transportation Security Administration supervisor Emmanuel Ritumalta looks on during its launching yesterday on Saipan.

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Continental Airlines launched its mobile boarding pass services yesterday at the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport, allowing passengers to receive their boarding passes on their cell phones or personal digital assistants, eliminating the need for paper boarding passes.

The mobile boarding pass also prevents manipulation or duplication of boarding

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Emergency regs for GHLI program

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund board of trustees adopted emergency regulation for the Group Health and Life Insurance program to ensure the continuity of services until the end of the year.

The proposed changes focus on three issues and are now published in the *Commonwealth Register*. Public comments are sought.

Without modification to the terms of the existing life insurance coverage, the CNMI government will be unable to continue to offer coverage to ac-

tive employees and retirees, the board said.

There are at present two carriers for the GHLI programs: Aetna Global handles the health insurance aspect, while Individual Assurance Company handles the life insurance program.

IAC started handling the life insurance program on Jan. 1 this year, following the termination of the contract of former carrier Netcare on Dec. 15, 2009.

The board of trustees indicated that the emergency regulations aim to address the potential loss of life insurance service due to the problems being suffered by the current life insurance carrier.

"The current life insurance

carrier is working with the CNMI government to offer sustainable and affordable life insurance coverage, but is unable to continue its current loss position with respect to the coverage provided/premium charged," the proposed emergency regulation stated.

The board also disclosed that the current coverage can be maintained through Dec. 31, 2010 with the proposed modification on GHLIP regulations.

During this time, the proposed regulation states that the CNMI government will continue to negotiate for the best life insurance coverage possible for its employees and retirees at a sustainable premium.

Next CCAC town hall meeting scheduled today

The Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture is encouraging all registered and non-registered artists on Saipan to attend the town hall meetings they have arranged for the next few weeks.

CCAC executive director Angel S. Hocog said the next town hall meeting is at the Koblerville Youth Center today at 5:30pm.

There will also be a town hall meeting on July 30, 5:30pm at the Tanapag Youth Center; Aug. 6, 5:30pm at the San Antonio Youth Learning Center; and on Aug. 13, 5:30pm at the Kagman Community Center.

The town hall meetings for Tinian and Rota will be announced at a later date.

Hocog said it is important for artists to attend these meetings so they will have the

chance to discuss their concerns with the council.

It will also be an opportunity to talk about upcoming events that aim to promote local artists on Saipan and in the Pacific.

These events include a proposed artist exhibit, and the participation of the CNMI in the Guam Micronesia Fair on Oct. 15 to 17 and in the Festival of the Pacific Arts in Solomon Islands in 2012.

Through the town hall meeting, the artists and the council can discuss potential fundraising events to enable the council to send representatives to the two festivals.

For more information about the town hall meetings, contact Parker Yobei at 322-9982 or 83 or e-mail him at parkeryobei@gmail.com. (Clarissa David)

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Stanley seeks USDOE intervention in 'biased' WASC sanction vs NMC

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan) endorsed yesterday a resolution calling on the U.S. Department of Education and top official of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges to intervene in what the lawmaker described as a damaging show-cause sanction recently imposed on the Northern Marianas College.

House Resolution 17-17 states that the Legislature would also seek legal remedy to support the lone public college in the Commonwealth.

"The Northern Marianas College has survived over the years and with the support of the Governor's Office and the Legislature by appropriations of taxpayers' money through generous and continuous acts of financial support such as the various scholarship and educational programs afforded to everyone," the resolution states.

Torres indicated that accusations of meddling by the governor and the Legislature in NMC's affairs—as noted by WASC president Dr. Barbara Beno in her June 30 letter to NMC—are misleading and vindictive.

"The latest ACCJC special report done in April of 2010 appears biased and self-serving for Dr. Beno and her support for the terminated former NMC president, Dr. Carmen Fernandez," states Torres' resolution.

He added that it appears that the mission of the ACCJC has changed "from a mentoring and advisory commission to a vindictive and retaliatory commission with personal and harsh agendas."

Because this "mission," Torres said, many California

institutions have suffered in their accreditation, including Peralta College, Compton College, Ohlone College, San Joaquin College, Mira Costa College, Victor Valley College, St. Mary's College, and others.

Torres believes that as lawmakers, the Legislature should do its best to help NMC keep its accreditation.

"We as a legislative body desire to provide the best solutions to the stability of our college for the sake of our young students, who are being frightened by these arbitrary actions of a WASC monopoly," the resolution states.

The same resolution asks WASC executive director Dr. David Brown and USDOE Secretary Dr. Arne Duncan to conduct an immediate investigation on the decision made by ACCJC under Beno's leadership.

Torres, who has been a vocal critic of former NMC president Dr. Carmen Fernandez, earlier attacked Beno's commission in previous privilege speeches on the House's floor.

The lawmaker alleged that Beno has demonstrated bias in handling NMC's accreditation issues under Fernandez leadership.

ACCJC, in a previous letter, denied these accusations and slammed the lawmaker for his baseless allegations.

Fernandez was fired on April 12 after a three-month suspension. ACCJC issued the show-cause sanction against NMC on June 30 and gave the college three months, or until Oct. 15, to correct 10 deficiencies.

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Austerity bill back to conference committee

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The House of Representatives did not act on a controversial bill to cut work hours from 80 to 72 per pay period after a conference committee withdrew it for further amendments that take into account the Fitial administration's concerns.

House Floor Leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan) said Conference Committee Report 17-1 is recommitted to the Conference Committee on House Bill 17-45.

Rep. Ramon Basa (Cov-Saipan) said House and Senate members of the committee have yet to finalize the revision to the austerity bill.

"Hopefully the final bill will in-

clude more government employees to be covered by the austerity Fridays, just like what the administration requested," said Basa, who is the chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee.

Among other things, the Fitial administration wants non-instructional employees of the Public School System and Northern Marianas College to be included in the every-other-Friday shutdown of government operations to

reduce government spending.

The administration also said the conference committee version of HB 17-45 needs revision to reflect the governor's budget submission for Fiscal Year 2011 which begins on Oct. 1.

Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan) said there are businesses that suggested that the austerity be made through cutting the daily work hours instead of government shutdown every other Friday, similar to an earlier proposal.

ERRATUM

In the story titled "Cop in extortion case obtains more time to prepare for trial" published on July 20, 2010, it states in part that Christopher Leon Guerrero is being allowed more time "to review the evidence in preparation for his trial and pursue plea negotiations." His lawyer says the phrase "and pursue plea negotiations" is inaccurate. Our apologies.

GOOD

From Page 1

empted, that means it is invalid, it is unconstitutional," said Villazor in an interview yesterday.

Villazor pointed out, though, that the courts also cannot ignore the fact and circumstances that led to the position the CNMI is in.

"It would be unfair to simply apply what's been happening in the States under completely different circumstances to what is going on here," she said.

She said cases established by the U.S. Supreme Court and other courts and even contemporary cases at the moment would support the federal government's or Obama administration's position that Public Law 17-1

is arguably preempted.

Villazor, however, noted that the CNMI is in a unique situation as it is in a transition period and that for more than 30 years it regulated its own immigration laws.

"So I think it makes sense to also argue why the CNMI is in a distinct situation so they may need to have their own set of...perhaps a different ruling might be used for them," she said.

Villazor said that courts typically treat territories differently from other places.

"I think the CNMI also has argument relying on the differential treatment of territories," she added.

Villazor and University of New Mexico School of Law Professor Robert J. Desiderio currently serve as instructors for the CNMI's Summer

Pre-Law Program 2010.

A daughter of former contract workers, Villazor grew up on Saipan and graduated from Mount Carmel High School.

Pre-emption doctrine

Preemption doctrine refers to a principle of law where, if there is a conflict between federal and state or local law, the federal law will trump the state or local law.

The Obama administration's lawsuit against Arizona filed in the Phoenix federal court asserts that Arizona's new immigration law, due to take effect July 29, usurps the federal government's "pre-emptive authority" under the U.S. Constitution to regulate immigration.

The CNMI has joined nine U.S. states in filing a legal brief supporting Arizona's controversial immigration law.

Not clear

Villazor pointed out that preemption is a contested issue and that even the courts in the U.S. are not clear on the law.

"It is changing over time. The law is far from settled in this area. I emphasized that last night," she said.

She pointed out that there's part of Public Law 17-1 that deals with the Commonwealth's assertion that it has the authority to revoke umbrella permits.

"The argument is that it is not an immigration law, that it is police power, that it's about labor which traditionally has been within the purview of the Commonwealth," she said.

Villazor said it is a reasonable argument to be made because if it is

not immigration, then the Commonwealth as well as other states and local governments have a freer rein to determine how to treat non-citizens within their jurisdiction.

"On the other hand, the federal government may also take the position that, even though the Commonwealth is saying that this is only a labor regulation, the immigration law is not just about admission or removal but it is also about the governance of the terms and conditions of non-citizens who reside in a particular space and so that also constitutes immigration regulations," she said.

Villazor said the two issues are the same ones being examined right now in Arizona.

HOUSE

From Page 1

lawmakers have been saying it could be as much as \$200 million.

The initiative adds a new Section 10 to Article X of the CNMI Constitution to authorize the Commonwealth to issue pension obligation bonds.

A pension obligation bond is a debt instrument issued by the government to fund the unfunded actuarially accrued liabilities and convert the accrued liabilities on the government's balance sheet. The lump sum deposit of bond monies directly reduces the accrued liabilities.

A court judgment determined that the CNMI central government owes the Retirement Fund over \$231 million in unpaid employer contributions as of June 2009. The amount increased to \$280 million in December and is still growing.

Rep. Joseph P. DeLeon Guerrero (R-Saipan), author of HLI 17-1, said he's relieved that the pension obligation bond

initiative received way more than the 14 votes needed for it to pass the House.

"I really hope the Senate will also expedite passing the bill so it can be included in the November 2010 ballot. The deadline for transmitting it to the Election Commission is first week of August," DeLeon Guerrero told Saipan Tribune.

The Senate may hold a session next week.

Except for Reps. Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) and Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota) who were excused from the session, the 18 other members of the House voted "yes" on HLI 17-1.

DeLeon Guerrero said the amount to be floated will be "determined by an actuarial study."

The House passed the initiative after a few floor amendments, such as placing it on the ballot in time for the Nov. 2 election, as well as changing the amount that the government owes the Retirement Fund.

House Minority Leader Diego T.

Benavente (R-Saipan) said the initiative does not specify the amount to be borrowed, but amends the Constitution to allow government borrowing for its operations, specifically to pay off its debt to the Retirement Fund.

"Given the current economic condition, it may be hard to borrow an amount equivalent to what the government owes the Retirement Fund. But the determination of how much will be borrowed will come later," he said.

Before any such bonds are actually issued, the CNMI additionally must assess their feasibility.

The feasibility of the bonds depends upon bond market conditions, prevailing interest rates, and 18 other factors that may change over time.

Floating a \$200 million pension obligation bond, according to a negotiating team led by Tony Muna, is part of the five-point plan to address Retirement Fund issues. The others include freezing additional benefits and phasing out the Retirement Fund.

Crafton demonstrated how a mobile boarding pass works before representatives of Continental Airlines, Transportation Security Administration, Commonwealth Ports Authority, and the media.

TSA partner

TSA federal security director Mike Conley said TSA is pleased to partner with Continental Micronesia for a more user-friendly and efficient process of boarding.

"Security obviously is our priority... but partnership with our stakeholders is also priority for us. We welcome the new process here and hopefully they would take advantage of it frequently," said Conley.

Also in attendance during yesterday's ceremony was CPA acting executive director Ed Mendiola.

Continental Airlines is the world's largest airline. Together with Continental Express and Continental Connection, it has more than 2,700 daily departures throughout America, Europe, and Asia serving 132 domestic and 137 international destinations.

MOBILE

From Page 1

passes, while heightening security.

Continental is the first carrier to offer paperless boarding passes in the Commonwealth following its introduction in Guam in March. To date, 56 cities in the U.S. use the airline's mobile boarding pass option.

In a simple ceremony yesterday, Continental Airlines Saipan station manager Rella Kretzers said the new service will ease the boarding process for its passengers.

"We are pleased to add the Saipan International Airport to the growing list of airports we serve with mobile boarding pass. I am confident that this additional service will give our customers a more hassle-free air travel experience. And this is further evidence of our strong commitment to providing our customers in Saipan, Guam and Micronesia with more added value and higher level of customer service," she said.

Kretzers said the electronic board-

ing pass displays a two-dimensional bar code and work with scanners at the security checkpoint and boarding gates for validation.

More secure

According to Sylvia Crafton, the airline's passenger service manager, mobile boarding passes are more secure compared to paper boarding passes because it cannot easily be transferred or altered.

Although the new service generally targets business travelers who are equipped with the right technology, Crafton said it is their hope to see more non-business passengers taking advantage of the new boarding passes.

For destinations and areas that have yet to have this mobile boarding passes, paper boarding passes remain an option.

At present, only a small percentage of passengers use mobile boarding passes but Crafton is optimistic this will change. "The percentage is quite low but as people are more getting familiar with it, certainly we will see an increase."

TIME

From Page 1

Villagomez, who is also the acting administrator for the Government Group Health and Life Insurance Program, was at the House special session yesterday morning.

"IAC is willing to extend coverage until July 31 or Aug. 31," he told lawmakers.

He said the government will be able to save some \$1.5 million every year if a single policy for all is negotiated.

If parties are unable to negotiate a policy that is affordable to retirees, active employees, and the CNMI government, then the government will have to self-insure again, just like what it did between Dec. 16 and Dec. 30, 2009, when NetCare Health and Insurance ended its contract with the Retirement Fund over an unsettled contract dispute.

House members took turns asking Villagomez, as well as Fund legal counsel Viola Alepuyo, about the ongoing negotiations with IAC and the GHLIP's support to House Bill 17-77.

Villagomez also read a written testimony on HB 17-77, introduced by Rep. Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) who was the only one absent in yesterday morning's session. The House went back to session at 2:30pm after going into recess for late lunch yesterday.

HB 17-77 amends in its entirety a law codified as the "Retirement Fund Contribution to Life Insurance" so that the Fund can negotiate for only one group life insurance for both retirees and active government employees.

Lawmakers, including Rep. Joseph DeLeon Guerrero (R-Saipan) and Rep. Tony Sablan (R-Saipan), said the \$10,000 coverage that is being negotiated is "too low."

But Villagomez said it is better to have life insurance coverage that is as low as \$10,000 than not having one at all.

Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan) said the Fund should have looked at other insurance carriers besides IAC, to which Villagomez said "yes."

Villagomez said only IAC and Netcare expressed interest in providing life insurance coverage for such a small pool of retirees and active government

employees.

'Scrap equal share of premiums'

Villagomez said the Fund's hands are tied by the current language in 1 CMC 8363(a) in that it "restricts our ability to provide affordable coverage for everyone."

He said by enacting HB 17-77 into law, the restrictions in securing a group life insurance policy for both retirees and active employees will be removed and will result in lower premiums.

"I also hope it is clear that HB 17-77 does not propose to lower the coverage of retirees. Rather, it seeks to protect retirees by allowing the CNMI to align their coverage with those of active employees so that we can negotiate one group coverage that is affordable for everyone as we seek to minimize cost to the entire CNMI government," he said.

Villagomez asked lawmakers to further amend HB 17-77, to strike out a provision of 1 CMC 8363(a) that requires the Retirement Fund to cover an equal share of premiums.

He said the cost of insurance adds to the liabilities of the Fund because the pension agency is required to pay for half of total premiums.

"Considering the NMIRF is underfunded, we can say that the cost of insurance adds to the unfunded liabilities of the CNMI. In other words, it increases the required employer contribution amount. Every dollar of cost to the NMIRF translates to a dollar of cost to the CNMI," he said.

Rep. Trenton Conner asked whether retirees support the Retirement Fund's position on HB 17-77.

Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan), meanwhile, accused the Retirement Fund of not being open or misinforming retirees, including those members of the Commonwealth Retirees Association.

"They deserve to know what's going on," Palacios said, adding that Fund officials showed up at the special session when HB 17-77 was not even on the agenda, while CRA members were not informed about the Fund's planned testimony.

Villagomez said the Fund mass e-mailed some 300 retirees about the session and the Fund's position on HLI 17-1.

Late Marine's remains to arrive in Guam Wednesday

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The body of the late U.S. Marine Corporal Dave Michael Maliksi Santos will be arriving in Guam from Delaware at 1am on Wednesday, said his father, David M. Santos.

But as of yesterday afternoon, there's no information yet as to the time the body will be brought to Rota where he was born and will be buried, his father added.

At the same time, Rep. Teresita A. Santos (Ind-Rota) introduced yesterday's session a commemorative resolution conveying condolences to the Santos family and honoring the late Marine for his service to the nation.

"The late Corporal Dave Michael Maliksi Santos' courage, determination, and undying will to fight for the freedom of his country and its people will forever be remembered by the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, most especially the people of his beloved home, Rota," House Commemorative Resolution 17-5 reads.

The commemorative resolution states that the late Marine "will also be remembered by his family, colleagues, friends and acquaintances as a hard-working family man, a dedicated member of the armed forces, and most importantly a great person."

The late U.S. Marine Corporal Dave Michael M. Santos was allegedly stabbed in the neck and killed by a fellow Ma-

rine around 2am on July 16 in Marjah, Helmand Province in Afghanistan, where he was deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

He was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division based at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

For his honorable service in the U.S. Marine Corps, he was awarded with the National Defense Service Medal and the Global War on Terrorism Medal, the resolution reads.



Santos

His father said they have yet to learn about the results of the investigation on his son's killing but they hope it will come out soon.

The late Marine corporal's biological mother, Charito Maliksi-

Runge, as well as his stepbrothers and stepsisters, will be flying from Newark, Delaware to Rota ahead of the arrival of the remains of her beloved son.

On Rota, they will be joined by the late Marine's biological father, David M. Santos, his adoptive mother Bella Maratita, stepsisters and a stepbrother.

Dave Michael Santos, who was born on May 17, 1989 on Rota, is described by his family and relatives as "loved by many," "loving," and "respectful." He also spent years as a child in Cavite, Philippines, where his biological mother is from.

He left behind a wife, Lotty Ann Atalig Santos, and their son Anthony David A. Santos.

After graduating from Rota High School in June 2007, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and trained at Camp

Pendleton in California.

He was first deployed in Afghanistan in 2008, and got redeployed there about a month ago.

Rep. Teresita Santos said once

her nephew's body arrives on Rota next week, the body will be brought to his father's house in Sinapalo I for hours.

She said the body will then be brought to the San Isidro Church

for public viewing.

"It appears that it's going to be there overnight, and then the following day will be the burial at the San Jose Cemetery in Songsong. But again, these are

just preliminary information. We still don't know when the body will be arriving on Rota from Guam. We don't know for sure when the funeral will be," the representative said.

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Zoning Office tags 65 junk cars on Saipan for removal

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A total of 65 junk cars on Saipan have been tagged since the Saipan Zoning Office launched its Junk Car Removal Program in April.

The Junk Car Removal Program was implemented with the purpose of getting rid of

junk cars that have become eyesores on the island.

Zoning planner Therese Ogumoro said the junk cars were tagged with notices for its owners who can then proceed by making their own efforts to personally remove their junk cars or notify the Zoning Office to handle their junk cars for them.

Ogumoro said junk car owners who want the Zoning Office to dispose of their junk cars must sign an authorization form that can be obtained from the Zoning Office.

"We have all the forms in place. We don't just go and take them away. [The owners] have to be notified," she said.

According to Ogumoro,

junk cars are classified into two types: those vehicles that are visible on public streets in both private and public lands and junk vehicles that are on the public right of way and poses a danger to pedestrians and motorists.

Owners of junk cars that fall under the first category are given 28 days to act on the notice.

For the second category, owners are given only 48 hours to take action.

Of the 65 tagged junk cars, Ogumoro said about half of them have been voluntarily removed by the owners. The rest were taken away by recycling companies that are part of the program.

The Junk Car Removal Pro-

gram is a collaboration of the Saipan Zoning Office, the Saipan Mayor's Office, and the recycling companies Basula Product and Saipan Triple Star.

Ogumoro said the Zoning Office also works closely with the Division of Environmental Quality to guarantee the environmental safety of the program and with the Department of Public Works to ensure proper disposal of the junk cars.

Math and culture graduate program kicks off on Saipan



The *Mathematics and Culture in Micronesia: Integrating Societal Experiences* inaugural institute was held on Saipan from July 4 to 15 at Saipan Southern High School, attended by 18 Pacific Islanders from American Samoa, Hawaii, the Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall

Participants in the *Mathematics and Culture in Micronesia: Integrating Societal Experiences* inaugural institute on Saipan pose for a group picture at the Saipan Southern High School. The institute was attended by 18 Pacific Islanders from American Samoa, Hawaii, the Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, and Palau.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Islands, and Palau.

According to Dr. Sandy Dawson, MACIMISE project director, "the first goal of the project is the development of elementary school mathematics curricula sensitive to local mathematical thought and experience. A necessary prerequisite for the achievement of this first goal is to recapture and honor the mathematics developed and practiced in the various communities."

Of the 18 participants, 10 are pursuing doctorate degrees, and eight are seeking master's degrees from the College of Education, University of Hawaii, Manoa under a National Science Foundation grant to Pacific Resources for Education and Learning.

PREL is the lead organization for the NSF grant, while the University of Hawaii's College of Education provides the courses and the professors to teach those courses.

For the MACIMISE Institute on Saipan, the courses are being taught by Dr. Neil Pateman, Dr. Joe Zilliox, Dr. Paul McKimmy, and Dr. Sandy Dawson. Dr. Tom Craven, co-principal investigator on the NSF grant, was also in attendance at the Institute. Two professors from the University of Guam, Dr. Donald Rubinstein and Dr. Nick Goetzfridt, also attended the Institute as visiting scholars.

In the words of Dr. Dawson, "This Institute marks the beginning of a journey as participants embark on five years of work in bringing to light the mathematics existing in the cultural practices of their home islands."

The Institute could not have been held without the assistance of Saipan Southern High School's principal, Craig Garrison, and Dora Miura, a MACIMISE participant and math teacher at the school.

Participating in the program are, from American Samoa: Tauvela Fale and Paul Tauilili; from Chuuk State, FSM: Danie Mamangon, Miuty Nokar, and Dion Bernard; from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands: Dora Miura; from Guam: Bea Camacho; from Hawaii: Andrea Aiona; from Kosrae State, FSM: Rhoda Velasquez, Tulensru Waguk, and Penina Tulensru; from Marshall Islands: Sweeny Term; from Palau: Epi Moses and Lucia Tabelual; from Pohnpei State, FSM: Deeleeann Daniel, and Tendency Liwy; and from Yap State, FSM: Jerry Fagolimal and Cal Hachibmai. (PREL)

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Hotel occupancy at 57 pct. in June 2010

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands reported 57 percent occupancy among its 13 member hotels for June 2010, a 10 percent increase from June 2009.

A total of 46,582 of 81,510 available room nights were sold in June, compared to 38,701 of

82,500 available room nights sold over the same period last year. Room rates were down slightly from \$87.05 last year to \$86.36 in May 2010.

For Calendar Year 2010, occupancy is averaging 65 percent and room rates are averaging \$94.05. This compares to 62

percent occupancy and \$97.24 room rate over the same period last calendar year.

"To return our occupancy rates and room rates back to a healthy level for profit and government revenues, all partners in the tourism industry must work to retain and attract more air service to the

Northern Marianas," said HANMI chair Nick Nishikawa. "More regular air seats and more promotions are needed to revive our tourism economy and get the Commonwealth back on its financial feet."

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands was established in 1985 as a professional forum for the hospitality industry of the Northern Mariana Islands. (HANMI)

Refaluwasch community to gather this Saturday

The Carolinian Affairs Office, along with the Indigenous Affairs Office, will lead a gathering of the island's Refaluwasch community this Saturday, July 24.

Carolinian Affairs executive assistant Angie Iginoef-Mangarero is calling on all members to participate in this gathering

that will address the concerns of the Refaluwasch community regarding the Department of Interior's Recommendations to the U.S. Congress.

"In line with the Indigenous Rights Movement, the Refaluwasch Community will be holding this event to specifically address

outstanding concerns on the impact any future decisions will have on the Refaluwasch community," said Iginoef-Mangarero.

With the support of various civic organizations within the Refaluwasch community, the gathering will be held at the Civic Center grounds in

Susupe at 12pm on Saturday.

"We are calling on all our Refaluwasch families to join us as we take some time to discuss our particular concerns in our effort to voice our concerns in determining our future," added Iginoef-Mangarero.

For more information, contact the Carolinian Affairs Office at 234-6385/7. (PR)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 23, 1999

SGMA summons errant member

The Saipan Garment Manufacturers Association has asked one of its members to appear for a formal hearing before the SGMA Code of Conduct Compliance Committee on August 9, 1999. Informal conferences were held between the SGMA Compliance Committee and Micronesian Garment Manufacturing/Diorva in June to address prior wage violations and civil penalties imposed by the U.S. Department of Labor. Although the back wages were paid to MGM/Diorva employees and civil penalties were addressed, SGMA stressed the need to ensure future compliance of its member company, by mutually agreeing with MGM/Diorva to the installation of independent payroll monitors. Company officials also agreed to retain a private occupational safety consultative services.

District Court extends stay period of class action suit dismissal order

The US District Court's dismissal order involving a class action suit filed by 23 unidentified workers against Saipan's garment companies will not take effect until the federal court hears the other pleadings of the plaintiffs. At yesterday's hearing, District Court Judge Alex Munson agreed to extend the 45-day stay of his July 19 order, based on the compromise reached by the attorneys of both parties. Munson heard the lawyers' arguments on the motion filed Tuesday by the plaintiffs, who were seeking a stay of the dismissal order pending a Ninth Circuit Court's ruling on their appeal. Timothy Skinner, one of the lawyers for the plaintiffs, indicated that his panel was satisfied with the compromise decision.

July 23, 2001

Harmless bugs swarm Saipan

This rainy season, homeowners are worried that the mass of light-weight, black-winged insects flying around their household could be a potential source of health woes. But residents need not fear that this particular type of insect, dubbed as the Fungus Gnat, could pose as a health threat, an entomologist said. The black-winged fungus gnat, which has recently grown in population due to the wet season, possesses no mouth parts that would enable it to pierce human skin through biting. The nuisance insects, which are known to frequent kitchens and other areas in the home, are simply just that—a nuisance, according to entomologist Dr. A. Lee Eavy.

Lower retirement age mullied

A proposed bill is now in the works at the House of Representatives that aims to amend certain provisions of the Commonwealth's retirement law, particularly the lowering of the retirement age to 55 and increasing member contributions to 10 percent. In addition, the amendatory bill, which is still being drafted by Rep. Rosiky F. Camacho, also seeks to redefine the requirements for crediting prior service for Class I members and readjusts the annual annuity of members. According to Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund administrator Juan S. Torres, Camacho's bill will be the House counterpart to Senate Bill 12-15-introduced by Sen. Ramon S. Guerrero—which aims "to improve the retirement benefits and the conditions for retirement for Class I members of the CNMI Retirement Fund."

July 23, 2002

High Court sets aside traffic ruling

A Superior Court ruling that rejected a plea agreement entered between the defense and the government in a 1999 traffic case was set aside by the Supreme Court. The lower court decision, entered on July 19, 2001, imposed a sentence on Bender Castro who pleaded guilty to driving without a license. Castro appealed the case before the high court in July last year on grounds that he was meted a punishment more severe than agreed to by the defense and the Attorney General's Office.

Cleanup resumes on jet fuel leak

Cleanup work on the jet fuel leak at the Saipan International Airport has resumed since Saturday, soon after the Division of Environmental Quality pressed for its immediate resumption. DEQ public information officer Rebecca Snider said the private contractor of Mobil Oil Mariana Islands and the Commonwealth Ports Authority also conducted testing at the monitoring wells near the area to determine whether or not the leak has contaminated these water sources. "Mobil and CPA contractors resumed the soil vapor extraction process Saturday, July 20," Snider said. "They're also testing at the three monitoring wells in the area." The contractor, Allied Pacific Environmental Consulting, suspended cleanup operations on January 4.

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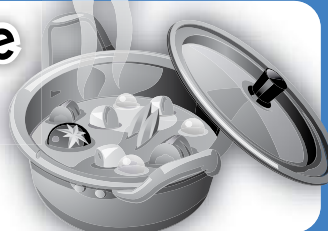
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EDITORIAL

A bigger House?

It seems counterintuitive. At a time of sagging approval ratings for Congress, the Supreme Court is being asked to rule that the House of Representatives is too small. It's for Congress, not the courts, to decide how many members the House should have, but there are some appealing arguments for the idea of a larger chamber.

A federal court in Mississippi recently rejected a claim by voters in five states that the current allotment of 435 representatives violates the Constitution's requirement that states be represented in the House "according to their respective numbers." That decision is being appealed to the high court.

The plaintiffs' argument is that some states have more representation than others because of variations in the populations of congressional districts. For example, Wyoming has a single district with a population of 495,304, while Montana's one district comprises 905,316. It isn't just single-district states that are over- or underrepresented. West Virginia's three districts average 604,359, while the average for Mississippi's four districts is 713,232.

Disparities result partly from the fact that every state is entitled to at least one representative, and that some states fall short of the population threshold for an additional seat. But the plaintiffs argued that disproportions would decrease as the size of the House increased. Ruling that "mathematics do not control," the three-judge panel in Mississippi correctly held that the plaintiffs "seek judicial entry into the exact area of decision-making that was reserved for Congress."

But that raises the question of whether Congress itself should increase the size of the House, not only to minimize disparities but to take at least some account of the population explosion that has occurred since 1911. That was the year Congress provided for 435 seats once Arizona and New Mexico were admitted to the Union. (The number rose temporarily to 437 in 1959 when Alaska and Hawaii became states.)

The number 435 isn't written in stone, let alone in the Constitution. What are the arguments for increasing it—say to 650, the size of the British House of Commons? In addition to reducing disparities, a larger House could make representatives more responsive because their constituencies would be smaller. Campaigns would be less costly because fewer voters would have to be canvassed. And parties and points of view that are perennially locked out of office by the size of current districts would see their prospects improve.

We're under no illusion that expanding the size of the House would be politically easy. For many voters—and thus for many members of Congress—"big government" is anathema. More representatives, even if they were paid less, would be portrayed as a raid on the Treasury. But it's time to begin the debate about whether, when it comes to representation, bigger is better.

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Still more questions

We continue to field questions by readers and would-be clients. We believe that although the questions involve specific life scenarios, they touch issues that are of interest to the general public. We will, therefore, devote this week's column to questions that have been addressed to us over the last few weeks.

Question: I live in the U.S. and my Chinese girlfriend lives on Saipan. We want to get married on Saipan but we also want to take a trip to China together. Do I need to be on Saipan to get married or can I just register? Can we travel together to China? Where do we apply for her green card?

Answer: By "register" we assume you mean actually become married. In the CNMI—and throughout the U.S.—this requires at least some kind of civil ceremony, not simply a registration. Both parties must be physically present for the ceremony. A marriage conducted with only one person present is called a "proxy marriage," and is not recognized as valid. (There is an exception involving marriages of military personnel in appropriate circumstances, but it does not apply to you.)

If you are going to take your girlfriend (or wife) to China, you must make sure that she has the proper documents to be allowed to return to the CNMI. Currently that will mean applying for what is known as advance parole. Currently, it takes about a month to process advance parole, except in emergencies such as illness or the death of a close family member, and it is not always granted. If she leaves Saipan before obtaining advance parole, she is taking a chance that she might be denied and then she cannot return to Saipan and resume her current status.

If your intention is to bring her to the mainland U.S., you have several options:

- You can apply for a fiancée/spousal visa, which will allow her to come to the mainland U.S. and then apply for an adjustment of status (green card) from there. An application for a fiancée/spousal visa must be made through the State Department. The wait is long and the approval rate is low. We do not recommend this route to our clients unless there is no alternative. (For an example, see answer to the third question, below.)

- You can apply for an adjustment of status, after you are married, from the CNMI. This application will be processed by the USCIS (Department of Homeland Security), and you will have to return to Saipan for your interview. But the processing rate is fairly quick and, provided that you are able to prove that you have a real marriage, the approval rates are high.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Q: I am a foreign worker on Saipan. I have an advance parole that allows me to travel to foreign countries and also to pass through Guam. My company has a branch in Guam and I need to meet with clients in Guam. When I boarded on Saipan, I was warned by the Customs and Border Protection Officer that my advance parole only allows me to transit in Guam, unless I have a B1/B2 visa. I will need to go to Guam on business again. Is there any way I can get a B1/B2 visa on Saipan?

A: You have a new style Advance Parole document which does indeed allow you to transit through Guam (airport transit lounge only), and allows you to return to the CNMI from a foreign destination, re-enter the CNMI and resume your prior CNMI status.

In order to travel to Guam and/or the mainland US, you need a parole (I-94). Unless it is a humanitarian emergency (a family mem-

Immigration Forum

By MAYA KARA and
BRUCE MAILMAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

ber is dead or dying or you need emergency medical treatment), this type of parole is generally not granted unless you already have a B1/B2 visa. This type of visa allows you to visit the U.S. for pleasure or business for a limited time. The visa is usually multiple entry and good for the term indicated.

You cannot get a B1/B2 visa at the Saipan USCIS/ASC. Only the State Department can issue visas. You will need to go to the American Embassy in Manila to get your visa. It would help if you contacted them by telephone and made an appointment ahead of time. You can get this information on the Internet, look for U.S. Embassy Manila.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Q: My friend is a Chinese tourist married to an American citizen who resides on Saipan. They were married in China last February and she just came on island last week as a tourist. They want to apply for a green card for the wife. Is she obligated to leave after the five-week visa ends, or is there a way she can stay to wait out the immigrant visa process with her husband on island?

A: Adjustment of status is not possible for a tourist. She will need to go back to China and go through consular processing, probably in Guangzhou. The only alternative, which also involves going back to China, is to get a spousal visa to enter the U.S. (i.e. return to Saipan) and then apply for adjustment of status from here. If she does this, her application for adjustment of status will be processed by USCIS rather than the Department of State. USCIS is much preferable. But it will be more expensive because, first, your friends will have to pay for processing the spousal visa, and then they will have to pay for processing the green card. Also, the approval rates for spousal visas in Guangzhou are low. However, in this instance, there is really no alternative if they want to live in the U.S., including the CNMI. If they want to live in China, that is an option, and he will need to get a residency permit there.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

Q: I am a Korean citizen living on Saipan with legal status. I was deported from Guam eight years ago. Can I go to Korea and return to Saipan?

A: Probably not. Prior to Nov. 28, 2009, a Korean citizen with legal CNMI status could travel in and out of the CNMI freely. However, we are now part of the United States for all purposes, including entry into the CNMI. If there is a reason that you cannot enter the United States, then you cannot enter the CNMI either. You don't say why you were deported, which is important to determine whether you are permanently barred from returning to the United States, or whether there may be some basis for you to reapply for admission. There are procedures to apply for re-admission after removal (deportation), but that is a more complex topic, for another column.

See STILL on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Catching rainwater

Saipan’s water situation isn’t always a happy one. About 30 percent of Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customers don’t have around the clock water availability, and at most only half of the water pumped into the system by CUC ever gets billed, since the rest is lost to unbilled usage, stolen amounts, and water leaks (I derive this from a May 8 article carried in the *Tribune*).

So a topic of perpetual conjecture is how much rainwater you can catch from your roof or from a similar surface. The fast answer, for Saipan, is that even a small 1,000 square foot rain catchment should net about 35,000 gallons a year. Here’s how I penciled it out:

First things first, there are 231 cubic inches in a gallon.

Next let’s consider a manageable little slice of catchment, say, a 1-foot by 1-foot sheet of roofing metal. That’s 12-by-12 inches, which is 144 square inches. We’ll get into cubic dimensions by imagining a 1-inch high layer of water on it, so now we’ve got 144 cubic inches. Dividing this by our 231 cubic inches in a gallon gives us 0.62.

In other words, a 1-inch thick layer of water sitting on 1 square foot of surface amounts to a volume of 0.62 gallons.

In fact, you get the same result if the water is standing on the surface, or even resting on the surface, instead of sitting on it. Hey, why does water sit, stand, or rest, but it never reclines?

Personally, I think reclining is a lot more comfortable.

Or how about reposing? I like that word. It’s real classy.

Anyway, classy or not, rain catching isn’t going to be a perfectly efficient process. So it would be nice to have a rule of thumb to quantify the inefficiencies.

Fortunately, in his classic book on tropical housing, *A Blueprint*

for *Paradise*, author Ross Norgrove expounds on just such a thing. He suggests using a 30 percent loss factor for rain catchments. Well, if you’re losing 30 percent, you’re keeping 70 percent, and 70 percent of our ideal 0.62 gallons leaves us with net 0.44 gallons per inch, for every square foot of surface.

Everyone I know prefers having a pitched, not a flat, catchment surface, at least if they have a choice in the matter. So an enquiring mind would want to know how the pitch would influence the calculation of surface area. From what I’ve been told, the answer is to simply ignore the pitch.

In other words, picture a house with a flat roof as a catchment. That roof area is the surface area. If you decide to make it pitched, yes, you’ll have more surface area exposed to the world, but no, the underlying “catchable” area doesn’t change. Maybe some advanced engineering analysis would contradict this, at least slightly, since wind induces a horizontal component to rainfall, but I’m talking backyard engineering here, not a doggone moon shot.

Saipan gets around 80 to 84 inches of rainfall a year, a number I take as a sloppy eyeball average of various figures that I have no interest in auditing. Based on the lower amount, 80 inches, we’d expect a 1,000 square foot catchment (an admittedly small area, but a handy index) to see 49,870 gallons of rainfall for a year, 70 percent of which, or 34,909 gallons, will be caught.

There’s no tricky math here, things scale up or down proportionally if you change your catchment area. If you double the size of the area, you double the amount of gallons caught.

This isn’t the end of the topic, it’s just the beginning. Actually storing the water that flows from the catchment is something else

By **ED STEPHENS**
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Ed holds a degree in economics from UCLA and has served as a U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday. Visit Ed at TropicalEd.com and SaipanBlog.com.

entirely. Most folks I know don’t have 20,000-gallon cisterns; in a humble Saipan abode, tanks of 1,500 gallons and smaller seem more common. And I’ve seen my share of 55-gallon drums used for the job.

Anyway, with a small tank comes the big truth that when there’s a lot of rain, the tank runneth over, and when there isn’t a lot of rain, the tank runs dry. So what you catch, and what you actually keep, are not nearly the same thing.

Personally, I’d like to use the trunk of a 1974 Ford Maverick as a water tank. It appeals to my refined sense of aesthetics. Then the rest of the world can run dry, while I smugly repose on my lawn chair, swatting mosquitoes, eating moon pies and washing down those tasty confections with cool, fresh rainwater. After all, a water crisis shouldn’t compromise a true gentleman’s classy lifestyle.

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at TropicalEd.com. Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday.

Fifteen years later, the funerals continue for victims of Srebrenica

By **VELMA SARIC**
THE INSTITUTE FOR WAR&PEACE REPORTING

POTOCARI, Bosnia and Herzegovina—Zumra Sehomeric had already buried her husband, three sons, a brother and a nephew at the Potocari Memorial Center. Earlier this month, on the 15th anniversary of the Srebrenica genocide, she buried a fourth son, Bajazit, who was 16 when he was killed in July 1995.

“I have no words, no words at all, to describe the pain I feel inside,” she said. “All my dreams are shattered, they’re pointless right now. I was hoping, after all these years, that he’d show up from somewhere, that he’d be alive.”

Bajazit was among 775 victims of the massacre identified after being recovered from a mass grave. The bodies were re-interred on July 10 at the memorial center in eastern Bosnia.

Nearly 4,000 bodies have already been buried at Potocari. Victims’ families say they at least get the satisfaction in being able to lay their loved ones to rest. Still, most are unable to suppress their rage.

“I feel anger and rage, because the criminal who took my children away from me, Ratko Mladic, is still living as a free man,” Sehomeric said.

In the days following the occupation of the Srebrenica enclave by the Bosnian Serb army on July 11, 1995, an estimated 8,372 Bosniak men and boys were killed in the worst atrocity committed on European soil since World War II.

Although a number of Bosnian Serb officers have been convicted at The Hague tribunal for their roles in the massacre, Mladic, who led the Bosnian Serb forces during the Balkan wars, remains at large. This year’s ceremony saw a renewed commitment to capture him.

Among those calling for his arrest was Serbian President Boris Tadic, whose presence at the event was seen as particularly significant. In March, the Serbian parliament passed a landmark resolution apologizing for the massacre, although it stopped short of recognizing it as genocide.

In 2007, the International Court of Justice found Serbia guilty of not having prevented the massacre.

“As president of Serbia, I will never give up looking for the re-

maining culprits—and I especially mean Ratko Mladic,” Tadic said.

He described the events in Srebrenica in 1995 as a tragedy for “the Bosniak people, but also of all others who lived in the former Yugoslavia,” and added that “this page in history cannot be closed until all those guilty for it be brought to the face of justice.”

The U.S. ambassador to Bosnia, Charles English, read a message from President Obama which said in part, “We have a sacred duty to remember the cruelty that occurred here, and to prevent such atrocities from happening again. We have an obligation to victims and to their surviving family members.

“And we have a responsibility to future generations all over the globe to agree that we must refuse to be bystanders to evil; whenever and wherever it occurs, we must be prepared to stand up for human dignity,” the message said.

Velma Saric is a reporter in Sarajevo who writes for The Institute for War & Peace Reporting, a nonprofit organization that trains journalists in areas of conflict. Readers may write to the author at the Institute for War & Peace Reporting, 48 Grays Inn Road, London WC1X 8LT, U.K.; Web site: www.iwpr.net.

Letters to the Editor

Living in Fantasyland

The Tinian Gaming Commission’s modus operandi is the day’s news and it seems that even with the lack of current funds, the commissioners still think that all is well and this is none of the public’s business. Unless this commission is certain that by the end of the fiscal period it expects to make whole its current expenditure (the deficit) with anticipated revenues from the lone casino establishment in Tinian, then this is okay. But it seems that this is not possible and the level of optimism of the commission may be settling in Fantasyland.

Deficit spending is okay if there is assurance that cash will be available in an immediate period, like the end of the fiscal year. This is known as “unfunded asset.” It is just like using charge cards. But when you rely exclusively on the charge card resources and there is no remedy in sight, then you are bound to be in default and sooner than later you will be facing irreversible insolvency. This is the case of the Tinian Gaming Commission.

On the other hand, an “unfunded liability” is a promise to pay a benefit in some distant future time where the payout is certain and one is banking on optimistic asset growth and expectation is more subject to

outside factors and uncertainty. This is like postdating a check without funds in the checking account or expecting that present value of money in a saving account will grow to the level needed for the payout in some future time. In the “unfunded asset” situation, you don’t have cash resources at the present time, but one is expecting that the flow of cash from a source to be flawless and certain. In this case one is banking on hope, which is guiding the spending behavior. In the “unfunded liability” situation, there exists an asset and an expectation that it will grow to meet the payout, and any gap between the total expected payout and expected liquid resources at some point in the future is the unfunded part of the benefit. In both situations, they do not meet reality check, and both conditions are problematic.

The real question is finding out where the moral and ethical compass of the Tinian Gaming Commission is. If there is no money, then you can’t spend what you don’t have, plain and simple. There is good reason that the Retirement Fund should pursue suing the Tinian Gaming Commission and its commissioners for defaulting in paying for the employee and employer contributions due the Fund. By the way, if the law stipulates a salary not to exceed \$75,000 for commissioners, then the Commission should apply the minimum standard side of this law to peg the just and fair compensation for the level of work that this commissioners do. It is easy to understand why balancing the “income” and “outcome” of the financial state-

ment is good and practical; it is a linear relationship.

Francisco R. Agulto
Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

Thank you Saipan community

In this busy island of ours, it’s gratifying when people take the time to help others. It’s for this reason that we extend our deepest and sincere appreciation and *un dangkulu na si yu’us ma’ase* to all of you out there that contributed during our Coin Drive on July 2, 2010.

We want to tell you how much your donation gets us across Asia Pacific in time for regional tournament and we will be heading to Bangor, Maine for the World Series Tournament. Once again, thank you!

We would also like to extend our big thank you to our parents for their help and support during our team preparation for the Jakarta competition.

From the CNMI Senior League All-Star Team		
Joseph Palacios	Harry Nakamura	Richard DLCruz
Ricardo DLCruz	Jeremy Lizama	Macgarett Duenas
Diego Camacho	Leonard Sablan	Marvin Ngeskebei
Kevin Villagomez	Zackery Aldan	Gregorio Iskawa
Jake Santos	Carl Camacho	Nathan Guerrero
Jesse Yamagishi		
Manager: Jonathan Tenorio		
Head Coach: Tony Guerrero		
Asst. Coach: Lawrence Dikito		

STILL

From Page 10






The bottom line: we don’t think your chances of getting an Advance Parole approved are good. You need to make plans to relocate away from the CNMI by Nov. 27, 2011, unless you have a basis to waive your prior deportation and are allowed to reapply for admission.

The information contained in this column is intended as general information only, and not as individual legal advice. Readers should obtain professional legal advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations. Readers may submit questions regarding federalization or immigration issues to the authors by email to lexmarias@pticom.com. Readers may also e-mail written questions through the Saipan Tribune at editor@saipantribune.com.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
				
Morning rain; clouds breaking. East winds 10 to 14 mph.	Rain in the afternoon	Morning rain, then a shower	Partly sunny, showers around	Breezy with rain
▲ 86° ▼ 77°	▲ 86° ▼ 77°	▲ 86° ▼ 77°	▲ 86° ▼ 77°	▲ 86° ▼ 76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Sunny	▲ 88 ▼ 78
Palau	Rain	▲ 84 ▼ 78
Yap	Partly Sunny	▲ 86 ▼ 78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 83 ▼ 77
Pohnpei	Rain	▲ 87 ▼ 74
Kosrae	Rain	▲ 89 ▼ 77
Majuro	Showers	▲ 84 ▼ 77

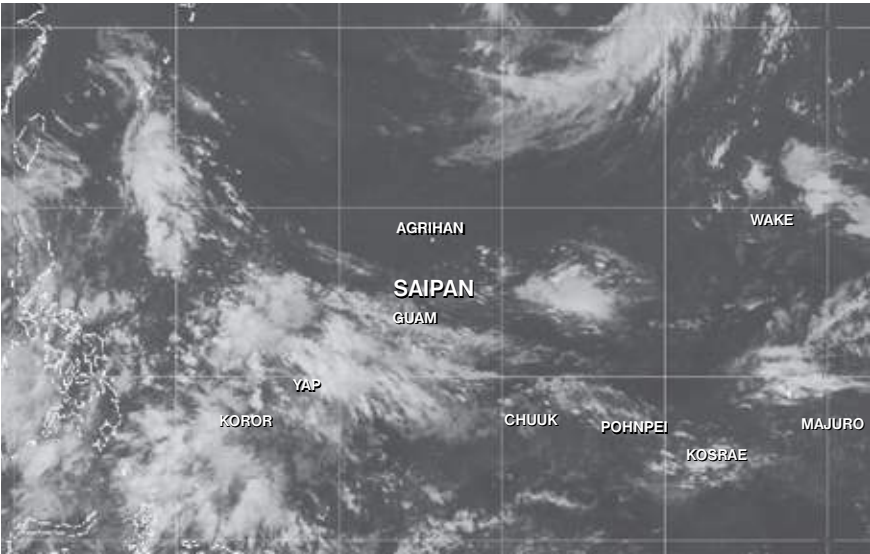
Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲ 56 ▼ 51
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 91 ▼ 73
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 74
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85 ▼ 75
London	Mostly Sunny	▲ 73 ▼ 56
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 78 ▼ 63
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 77
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲ 59 ▼ 43
Miami	Showers	▲ 87 ▼ 82
New York	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 77
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲ 91 ▼ 76
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲ 75 ▼ 54
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲ 80 ▼ 74
Rome	Sunny	▲ 89 ▼ 70
Salem	Sunny	▲ 87 ▼ 60
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 65 ▼ 57
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲ 80 ▼ 74
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲ 89 ▼ 79
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲ 100 ▼ 82

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
4:17 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	
12:10 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet	
7:39 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, JULY 22, 2010

Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An upper-level low is centered north of Wake island at 23N168E. Isolated thunderstorms are occurring near the low over Wake between 18N and 22N from 163E to 173E. A surface trough runs northward from 1N139E to 14N140E. Weak divergent winds aloft are enhancing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms near the trough over Yap and just southwest of Guam within 130 miles of a line from 3N140E to 8N137E to 14N143E. Widely scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found farther northwest in an area bonded by a line from 10N130E to 10N135E to 14N140E to 22N130E and back to 10N130E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms from south of Guam to Chuuk within 105 miles of a line from 11N145E to 6N151E to 5N158E. Scattered showers are seen over the Marshall islands and eastward to the date line within 110 miles of a line from 7N163E to 8N169E to 6N175E to 7N180.

Sunrise/Sunset

Friday	5:57 AM	6:50 PM
Saturday	5:57 AM	6:50 PM
Sunday	5:57 AM	6:49 PM
Monday	5:58 AM	6:49 PM
Tuesday	5:58 AM	6:49 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:38 PM	3:10 AM
Saturday	5:27 PM	4:05 AM
Sunday	6:12 PM	4:58 AM
Monday	6:54 PM	5:50 AM
Tuesday	7:32 PM	6:39 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website: www.saipantribune.com.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 20, 2010

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM				GUAM-ROTA (ROP)			
C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5	C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily	C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily	C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:00am	8:35am	Daily	DL290	9:45am	2:20pm	Daily
DL297	3:20pm	5:55pm	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL289	4:35pm	7:10pm	Daily	DL288	8:40pm	1:10am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-NAGOYA				NAGOYA-SAIPAN			
DL640	7:40am	10:20am	Daily	DL641	9:10pm	1:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)				OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN			
OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily	OZ120	9:50pm	2:20am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BEIJING				BEIJING-SAIPAN			
CA988	3:15am	6:55am	1, 5	CA987	6:40pm	1:55am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	Daily
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX	OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	Daily	OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6	FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN	OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	DL630/641	6:30am	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	6 via GUM	DL172/288	7:40am	1:10am+1	Daily via NRT
DL287/173	6:00am	10:10pm	Daily via NRT	C0890/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	6 via GUM
DL640/629	7:40am	10:35pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO	OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM	OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C09603/893	3:05pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via GUM-Palau	PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ606/703	3:30pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	C0892/9596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	3, 5 via GUM-Palau
C09599/PR111	9:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG				HONG KONG-SAIPAN			
OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN	OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:30pm	1, 5 via GUM	OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ606/723	3:30pm	10:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	C0910/9596	10:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
FRE 300	17:50	18:20	Daily				
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 200	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

FBI arrests man for using another person's passport

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Federal Bureau of Investigation arrested a Chinese national bound for Seoul, South Korea, at the Saipan International Airport early Wednesday morning for allegedly using somebody else's passport.

De Zhu Sun, 32, was arrested for passport misuse and was taken to the U.S. District Court for the NMI yesterday morning for his initial appearance.

Sources said Sun was found guilty by a Superior Court jury in December last year of receiving over 100 boxes of Polo shirts that were stolen from the L&T International warehouse in Lower Base, worth over \$20,000.

Sun's sentencing was supposedly set for yesterday at 1:30pm before Superior Court associate judge Ramona V. Manglona.

At yesterday's hearing in federal court, Sun appeared without a lawyer. Assistant U.S. Attorney Kirk Schuler represented the U.S. government.

Visiting Judge Robert J. Bryan appointed a lawyer to represent Sun and remanded him to the U.S. Marshal's Office. A detention hearing will be held today, Friday, at 11am.

FBI Special Agent Haejun Park stated in his report that the Commonwealth Ports Authority had summoned him to the Saipan International Airport on Wednesday at 1am, about a situation with a passenger.

Apparently, an Asian male had been stopped at the Transportation and Security Administration's screening checkpoint as he was about to proceed to the boarding area to catch his flight. The passenger, later identified as Sun, had presented his Asiana Airlines boarding passes and Chinese passport to a Transportation Security officer. The passenger's two boarding passes were for flights on Asiana Airlines from Saipan to Seoul, then from Seoul to Pudong.

Park said the TSO became suspicious because the picture in the passport did not appear to match the passenger's appearance. The passport presented belonged to a male named Wenjun Zhou with a birth date of Dec. 17, 1962.

The TSO sought help from the Supervisory Transportation Security Officer, who also was suspicious because the passenger's appearance did not match the photograph in the passport.

Through an interpreter, the passenger told the TSO that his name is Wenjun Zhou, with a date of birth of Dec. 17, 1962, Park said. The passenger claimed he had no additional identification card.

When asked what he did in Saipan, the passenger replied that he did not have a job and was going home because of the bad economy.

Park said the passenger claimed that he did not leave Saipan for the entire eight years yet a review of Wenjun

Zhou's passport indicated several entry and exit stamps, but none from the CNMI.

Park said the passenger told

him that he could not remember any of the countries the passport indicated the bearer had visited.

The special agent said he then

arrested the passenger.

Later that morning, Park said, after inquiring about the situation with several police officers,

at least one recognized the passenger from the photograph that he provided as De Zhu Sun with date of birth Feb. 25, 1978.



Learn more about...

NMC's Accreditation

As announced earlier, NMC was placed on show cause on June 30, 2010. The following questions and responses provide additional information to further explain "show cause" and NMC's accreditation.

Q: Is NMC still accredited?

A: Yes. The recent decision by the accrediting commission to place NMC on Show Cause does not change NMC's accreditation status. NMC is still an accredited institution. The College remains committed to offering a high-quality education and excellent student services.

Q: What is accreditation?

A: Accreditation is a status given to an educational institution that has been found to meet or exceed certain standards of educational quality. The agency that accredits NMC is the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), which is part of the Western Association of Schools

Q: Why does accreditation matter?

A: Accreditation matters because it helps to 1) assure the quality of the programs and services that NMC offers, and 2) it fosters and encourages institutional advancement. It also qualifies NMC for certain kinds of federal funds (for example, grants and financial aid).

Q: What does Show Cause Status mean?

A: Show Cause is ordered when the accrediting commission finds an institution to be in substantial non-compliance with its eligibility requirements, standards, or commission policies, or when the institution has not responded to the conditions imposed by the commission.

Q: Why is NMC on Show Cause?

A: ACCJC found that NMC is not in compliance with ACCJC Eligibility Requirements (ERs) and Standards in three general areas: Institutional Autonomy from Outside Interference, Institutional Financial Management and Integrity, and Institutional Governance.

Q: What will happen next?

A: The Northern Marianas College has been asked by ACCJC to submit a report by October 15, 2010 to show what steps the College has taken to address the Commission's concerns. The submission of the report will be followed by a visit from ACCJC representatives.

Q: What is NMC doing to overcome the Show Cause status?

A: Students, staff, faculty and the members of the Board of Regents have overcome show cause before and are confident that NMC's accreditation will be reaffirmed again. The Interim President will be assembling the College's management team to formulate a strategy to achieve affirmation. In the meantime, those who wish to view updates of NMC's accreditation efforts can log on to www.nmcnet.edu.

Q: Can I still register for classes?

A: Yes. Again, NMC is still fully accredited and committed to delivering excellent student services.

Q: Do my classes qualify for transfer?

A: Yes. Credits to other educational institutions will continue to transfer based on the receiving institution's criteria. NMC's counseling office will also continue to assist students with the credit transfer process by providing additional information and documentation regarding course descriptions and curricula.

Q: What happens to my financial aid?

A: Nothing. NMC's accredited status continues and students' financial aid will not be affected.

Q: Where can I find out more information about accreditation?

A: Accreditation updates are regularly posted at NMC's website at www.nmcnet.edu. You can also log on to www.accjc.org for more information about the accrediting commission.



Northern Marianas College

Updated: July 07, 2010

'Scholars will lose federal aid if NMC loses accreditation'

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Students currently receiving federal scholarships will be deprived of financial assistance if the Northern Marianas College loses its accreditation with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

NMC said accreditation is a voluntary process that colleges and universities go through to ensure institutional quality and promote continuous quality improvement.

Recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, the WASC Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges has developed eligibility requirements and standards that set acceptable levels of quality for colleges within its membership.

By meeting those eligibil-

ity requirements and standards, ACCJC accredited institutions also qualify their students for federal financial aid.

NMC records show that a total of 709 students received Pell Scholarship amounting to about \$2.6 million in Fall 2009 and Spring 2010 semesters. On average, NMC registers from 800 to nearly 1,000 students every school year.

On June 30, WASC sanctioned NMC with show-cause status and gave it until Oct. 15 this year to submit the corrective measures in time for the commission's decision in January 2011.

NMC was also on show-cause status in 2008.

NMC working double-time

"We would like to reassure the public that NMC remains accred-

ited and that we are working diligently to address the accrediting commission's concerns in order to fully comply with WASC standards and requirements," said NMC interim president Lorraine T. Cabrera yesterday.

She said that NMC is restructuring its management team to include representatives from the college's student government, faculty senate, and staff senate.

"We are confident that the strategic action plan that will be developed to address accreditation matters will bring positive results," said Cabrera.

In 2008, NMC was cited in six areas of concern that were all addressed, leading to its reaffirmation in June 2009.

This year, WASC released 10 "deficiencies" for the college to work on, including financial audit, college autonomy, and governmental interference.

Only 2 show up at DPW public hearing

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Only two members of the community showed up for the public meeting conducted by the Department of Public Works at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center Wednesday night.

The purpose of the public meeting is to encourage the participation of the community in the planning process for the Federal-Aid Highway Program, Territorial Transportation Improvement Plan for Fiscal Year 2011.

The Federal-Aid Program is an annual formula grant program from the Federal Highway Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

"We are required through a stewardship agreement between the CNMI government and the Federal Highway [Administration] to let the public provide their comments and opinions regarding projects that we intend to execute," said Joe Inos, Technical Service Division director of the Department of Public Works.

Inos said public participation is important in the

decision making process because it helps determine and understand the needs of the community.

According to Inos, it is only their public meetings on Saipan that are not well-attended. The public meetings on Tinian and Rota receive more participation from their community members.

The public meeting on Tinian was conducted yesterday at the Tinian Elementary School Cafeteria. For Rota, the meeting is scheduled at 5:30pm today at the Round House.

Inos said the lack of involvement from community members can either mean they were not informed about the public meetings or they do not oppose the project plans of the department.

But Inos noted that the notice of public meetings on the three islands was advertised in the newspaper and in the DPW website.

Tony Camacho, highway administrator at DPW, said the lack of participation on Saipan in these public meetings may be attributed to the fact that there are more things to do here so people tend to be "a lot busier."

Inos and DPW Secretary Martin Sablan also said that since the public do not take part in the planning process, they usually react only when the department commence with the projects.

Sablan said they plan to organize more public hearings to try and accommodate residents of distant villages such as Kagman and put up more and bigger advertisements in the paper.

Saipan will have a total of \$7,668,000 budget allocation for FY 2011. This includes the allocation for the new fiscal year as well as reprogrammed funds from previous years.

Upcoming Saipan projects to be funded by the Federal-Aid Highway Program are the Tun Herman Pan Road and Drainage Improvements Phase II; Beach Road/Tun Segundo Street/Intersection Traffic Signal System; Chalan Pale Arnold Hazard Elimination; Traffic Signal System Upgrades; Highway Traffic Management Center; Route 33 Beach Road Feasibility Study; and the Preliminary Engineering for Route 302 Naftan Road.

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Man who broke store customer's cheekbone gets 6 months, 23 days

The Superior Court has imposed a prison term of six months and 23 days on a man who assaulted a store customer last December and beat him up with a wooden stick, breaking the victim's cheekbone.

Associate Judge Perry B. Inos sentenced Jerun Kileleman Kaipat to three years in prison, all suspended except for six months and 23 days, for aggravated assault and battery.

Following a plea agreement, Inos gave Kaipat credit for the six months and 23 days he had already served in jail. This means the 25-year-old Kaipat immediately goes free.

Before handing down the sentence, Inos asked the victim, Cheng Lin Zheng, if he agrees to the terms of the plea agreement.

Zheng, through a staff of the Office of the Attorney General, said the jail term is fine with him so long as he gets restitution.

DPL works on finding lot for Tinian fire substation

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Department of Public Lands Secretary Oscar M. Babauta said his office is working on finding a land to be designated for the proposed construction of a Tinian Fire Department substation.

"My planning division is diligently working on this request," Babauta told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

The Tinian Fire Department substation is one of the five project proposals for the community development block grant for program year 2010, administered by the Northern Marianas Housing Corp.

According to Babauta, DPL received the request to designate a land for the proposed Tinian Fire Department substation in April.

"It is not that we intend to delay the request but our office is bombarded with many requests, both from government agencies and private entities. Our planning people are working hard every day in trying to address this request as they come in," he said.

Babauta said there are parcels of public land that can be designated for the project. He said the planning division is now conducting technical work, including survey and topography study.

"We want to be assured that there is a commitment by the Tinian leadership as far as funding is concerned that would develop the property and finance the project," he added.

When asked about their timeline in designating the needed land, Babauta said they cannot come up with a precise date since the department has limited resources and they must work on requests as they come in.

Inos placed Kaipat on probation for three years and required him to pay Zheng \$1,516.85 in restitution and or the Commonwealth Health Center for the ambulance fee and emergency room charges.

Kaipat was also ordered to pay a \$500 fine, \$100 court assessment fee, plus probation fees.

Inos barred Kaipat from consuming any alcoholic beverages during his three-year probation.

The Office of the Attorney General had charged Kaipat with assault with a dangerous weapon, and assault and battery.

Kaipat pleaded guilty to aggravated assault and battery as part of a plea bargain. The remaining charges were dismissed. He was represented by chief public defender Adam Hardwicke.

The case arose from an incident on the evening of Dec. 28, 2009, when Kaipat attacked Zheng at the CYC Market in Kagman III.

Detective Peter Camacho stated in his report that Kaipat had tried to talk to Zheng but the victim ignored him. Kaipat hit Zheng on the back of head with a wooden rod, then punched him several times. Zheng's co-worker yelled at Kaipat, who fled on foot. A responding police officer arrested the defendant. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



Kia Soul offered as a TOC hole-in-one-prize

From left, Boyet Centeno and Ben Babauta from the Tournament of Champions Committee, Matt Deets from Joeten Motors, and Arthor Miron from the TOC Committee. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

For the seventh year, Joeten Motors and the Joeten Charitable Foundation have committed to become a hole-in-one prize sponsor for the upcoming Tournament of Champions. The sponsorship will allow golf participants a chance to win a hip 2010 Kia Soul with a hole-in-one on Lao Lao West Course No. 13.

"Joeten Motors and the Joeten Charitable Foundation are excited to have the Kia Soul be part of this year's TOC as a hole in one prize," said Matt Deets, general manager of Joeten Motors. "We have supported TOC for number of years and are happy to support what TOC has

been, and will be able to do for the Island of Saipan."

Since its inception, TOC has given over \$500,000 to the Saipan Beautification Fund, which has gone directly to the improvements of the tree-lined traffic medians that stretch from Garapan to The Palms at Pau Pau, as well as the revitalization of the Garapan special district. In addition, TOC also contributed funds for the Paseo de Marianas, the lighting of the Saipan Beach Pathway, and most recently the beatification of the Port to Park pathway.

"We are so thankful to Joeten Motors and the Joeten Charitable

Foundation for their ongoing dedication to TOC and the Saipan Beautification Fund," said Ben Babauta, TOC Tournament Director. "My son has been asking for this exact car...I know the golfers will be eager for a hole-in-one to win the Kia Soul."

Platinum sponsor, Lao Lao Bay Golf Resort will host to the 15th Annual Tournament of Champions on Saturday and Sunday, July 31, and Aug. 1. Show time is 6am and shotgun start is 7am. Registration fee is \$175 for two days of golf and the banquet. For more information and to register, call 236-2511. *(PR)*



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**NCLEX PASSER**

Congratulations to our lovely daughter, Miles Rodriguez, for having passed the NCLEX RN recently. We are so proud of you and for all your accomplishments. Love, Dad and Mom.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Third ukulele jam slated for tomorrow

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The American Memorial Park is inviting the young and young at heart who love to play ukulele or just listen to the melody produced by this well-recognized instrument to take part in the Third Annual Ukulele Jam from 4pm to 7pm tomorrow at the American Memorial Park amphitheater.

Park Ranger Nancy Kelchner said the idea for the ukulele jam was initiated by Luis Wabol, a former instructor at Hopwood Junior High School who plays the instrument.

Although Wabol already moved to Guam, Kelchner said they decided to perpetuate the

activity so that kids will have something fun to do during their summer break.

The activity allows kids of all ages to interact through their love for playing ukulele and its music, she added.

Kelchner recalled that during the first ukulele jam, the objective of the activity was clearly manifested by an episode at the venue.

There was one female adult who showed up at the venue with her newly purchased ukulele that was still in a box. "She didn't know how to tune it, she didn't know anything. She wanted to learn," she explained.

Kelchner said a gregarious student who was among the 10 participants of the first ukulele

jam approached the female adult and offered to teach her how to play her newly bought ukulele.

Last year, a ukulele band dropped by and took part in the ukulele jam, she added.

Kelchner also said that participants have the option to jam or have their own little corner on the venue.

"You don't even have to play. Just listen to the music. It's a fun experience," she said.

According to Kelchner, they faxed the information on the Third Ukulele Jam to various schools as well as the Humanities Council to encourage more people to participate in the event.

For more information, contact Kelchner at 234-7207 ext. 2020 or 483-7253.

Eucon offers scholarships

Eucon International School is offering scholarships to deserving elementary and high school students.

Applicants need to meet the following scholarship application criteria:

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Visit the EUCON Business Office and fill up an application. Bring all the requirements such as birth certificate and proof of residence. For-

eign students (that need student visa) are not eligible.

You will then be invited with your parent for an interview. If you meet all the requirements, the scholarships will then be awarded.

Certain restrictions apply: Registration fees, school uniforms and other miscellaneous expenses are not included on the program. Scholarship covers tuition only.

This is on a first-come, first-serve basis due to limited slots.

This scholarship program is part of the community outreach of the Christian Bible Church in Gualo Rai, Saipan, across Subway, Middle Road. (**Eucon**)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Book-signing ceremony at public library

The CNMI Library Council, Library Friends, and the staff and management of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library said that a book-signing ceremony will be held on Wednesday, July 28, 2010, at 5pm, at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library to introduce the recently published book, *From Colonization To Self-Government: The Northern Marianas Experience*. The event will feature the book's author, retired Chief Justice Jose S. Dela Cruz, who will talk about the book and his reasons for writing the book. He will then take questions from members of the audience present. Afterwards, copies of the book will be available for sale. Forty percent (40%) of the proceeds from the sale will be donated to the library. He will make himself available for the book signing. The public is cordially invited to attend. (**PR**)

Saipan Summer Jam 2010

The Saipan Summer Jam team would like to invite participants who wish to join the car show on August 21. The categories include: Best Import, Best Monster Truck, Best Classic, Best Overall, and Sound-off Competition. Food vendors, car dealerships, and sponsors are also welcome to participate. Contact Rhiner Aguon at 483-7769 or e-mail saipansummerjam@gmail.com for more information. (**PR**)

Program on Article XII next Tuesday

Citizens for Change of Article XII will be hosting a program on Channel 2 for the beginning next Tuesday, July 27, 2010, and running for three consecutive Tuesdays (Aug. 3, Aug. 10, and Aug. 17) from 7pm to 7:30pm. Be sure to tune in and learn more about issues relating to Article XII from David Sablan, Alex Sablan, Vince Seman, and others. (**PR**)

PAWS: Changing of the Guards

PAWS will be hosting a general meeting, open to the public, Thursday next week, July 29, 2010, at Shenanigan's in Garapan at 5:30pm. The purpose of the meeting is to solicit volunteers for the organization.

Currently, PAWS is undergoing a change in board members. PAWS president Katie Busenkell will be resigning in mid-August as she is moving off-island. Board member Ron Smith will also be resigning to pursue other volunteer commitments. The only board member remaining with the organization will be Bobbi Grizzard, who has acted as treasurer since 1993 when the organization was first established.

Volunteers are needed to answer calls to the PAWS hotline (285-PAWS), pick up and/or advertise unwanted and abandoned animals, and reach out to the public. If you are interested in volunteering for PAWS, call 285-PAWS, e-mail Bobbi Grizzard at bobbi.grizzard@gmail.com, or simply come to the meeting at Shenanigan's on July 29. (**PR**)

KagES Summer Backpack program is here

The "Take Home Summer Backpack" program has arrived. Parents or guardians are required to attend a one-hour training session on how to use these educational materials at home during the summer break. Your child will get the "Take Home Summer Backpack" provided the parent or guardian attends the training on any of the following schedule:

■ July 27, 2010: Kindergarten to 5th grade, 9-10am and 2-3pm, cafeteria

■ July 28, 2010: Kindergarten to 5th grade, 9-10am and 2-3pm, cafeteria

You are all encouraged to come and attend the parent training session. (**PR**)

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Department of Public Health

Office of the Secretary of Public Health

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Please be advised that the Department of Public Health's programs (listed below) will be CLOSED on FRIDAY, JULY 23, 2010, for Professional Development and Team-Building Skills training.

WIC Program

Public Health Dental Clinic

C*DAC (Children's Developmental Assistance Center)

Immunization Clinic

HIV/STD Resource Center

Breast and Cervical Screening Program

Bureau of Environmental Health

Chest Clinic

Public Health Accounting Office

We ask for the public's patience and understanding as we take this time to learn and develop skills to better serve our community.

Regular hours will resume on Monday, July 26, 2010.

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YOUTH RETREAT

Nearly 50 youth join Grace Christian Ministries' overnight youth retreat "Get in the Boat" on July 16-17, 2010, in San Antonio.

The retreat offered youth the opportunity to build friendships and their faith with games, a live band, a movie, Bible instruction, and other activities. Also pictured are retreat leaders.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



POST-PRANDIAL PHOTO

Employees of Delta Air Lines Saipan and Japan offices pose for a photo after a hearty lunch at Amigo's Pizza. From left, standing, Lucille and Beau Tomokane of Saipan office; Bhavan Thapa, daughter Sandhya, wife Tomomi, and daughter Shanti from Japan; and Takashi Inoue with daughter Niko, also from Japan.

CLARISSA V. DAVID



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday greetings go out to Andrei C. Lapuz, who is turning 6 years old today, July 23, 2010! Greetings come from your loved ones.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

PIC SEA director Cole Pritchard is celebrating his birthday today! Happy birthday, from your PIC family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ROTARY SPEAKER

Jane Mack, board member of the Thespians of the Western Pacific Islands, talks about their group as she addressed the members of the Rotary Club of Saipan during their regular meeting Tuesday at Hyatt Regency Saipan.

CLARISSA V. DAVID



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Two (2) Sessions (Depending on Enrollment)

7:30am – 11:30am and 11:30am – 2:30pm

Kindergarten – Born Before October 15, 2005

Head start – Born Before October 15, 2006

DOCUMENTS NEEDED:

BLUE HEALTH CERTIFICATE

COPY OF BIRTH CERTIFICATE

COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM

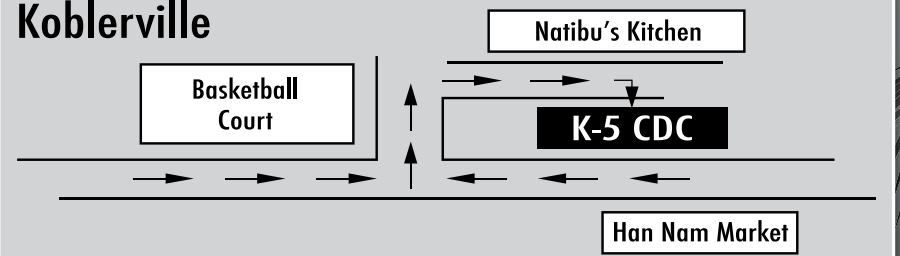
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Telephone no. (670) 236-0900 Facsimile no. (670) 236-0991



PUBLIC NOTICE FOR HEARING

**Friday, July 16, 2010, First Notice
Friday, July 23, 2010, Second Notice**

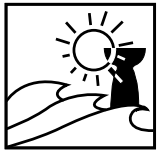
The Employee and Employer is hereby notified to report to the Department of Labor, Administrative Hearing Office, 2nd Floor, Afetia Square Building, San Antonio, Saipan for a hearing to address the matter of the complaint. This notice will serve as a "Proof of Service of this Notice of Hearing". For information, please call 236-0900 ext. 298.

Employee	Employer	Case Number	Date/Time
Reyes, Marcela T.	Tri Enterprises, Inc.	CAC No. 10-407-06	08/03/2010 @ 9:00AM
Li, Bo Hu	Torres, Ernest R.	CAC No. 10-406-06	08/03/2010 @ 9:00AM

Failure to appear on the scheduled date may result in an Administrative Order being entered against you.

Dated this 14th day of July 2010.

/s/ Jeffrey T. Camacho
Enforcement OIC



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL MVA-RFP-10-2303

For: CNMI Tourism Master Plan for 2011 - 2015

Closing Date: August 10, 2010

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Submit sealed proposals to: The Division of Procurement & Supply
P.O. Box 10008
Saipan, MP 96950

Interested parties may pick up the scope of work and application for local preference at the Marianas Visitors Authority office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the MVA website at www.mymarianas.com.

/s/ HERMAN SABLON
Director, P&S

/s/ PERRY P. TENORIO
Managing Director

NMI ESGR committee to host 'Briefing with the Boss' lunch

Capt. Josephine Blas, Public Affairs director for the Guam-CNMI Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, announced yesterday that a "Briefing with the Boss" luncheon will be held this Friday, beginning at 10:30am at Lao Lao Bay Golf Resort on Saipan, with public and private employers invited to attend.

"This is the right time to do and the right time to do it. Many of our employers on Guam and in the CNMI are uncertain and concerned over their responsi-

bilities to their employees who serve in the National Guard and Reserve. This informative briefing will provide employers answers to ensure compliance with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, a federal law, and suggestions on how best to manage their employees who serve their country in the National Guard and Reserve," said Blas.

There is no charge to attend; however, those wishing to attend must reserve their seat in

advance by contacting Rose Igitol, CNMI Area chair, at 670-287-1129.

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve is a Department of Defense agency established in 1972. The mission of ESGR is to gain and maintain active support from all public and private employers for the men and women of the National Guard and Reserve by recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of the law, and resolving conflicts through informal mediation. (PR)

Guam firms sued for alleged failure to pay \$307,020

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A company filed a lawsuit yesterday in federal court against two affiliated Guam corporations for allegedly failing to pay \$307,020.26 in marine related services.

Allied Marine Surveyors Limited sued the International Bridge Corp. and Inter Bay Circle Marine Inc. for breach of a maritime contract and asked the U.S. District Court to find the two companies liable to pay damages with interest and costs.

Allied Marine is engaged in marine surveying, marine risk assessment, underwater inspections, repairs, salvage operations, and related business activities.

The company has provided marine related services to the defendants for about 20 years.

Allied Marine, through counsel Steven P. Pixley, said that Inter Bay was the operator of the tugboat *Marianas Voyager* and barge *Martha E* (later renamed *Tamara V*), the barge *BC4602*, and the barge *Nusantara Abadi 2*.

International Bridge, a general construction company, made some payments to Allied Marine for services provided to the vessels, Pixley said.

Pixley stated in the complaint that beginning Jan. 2, 2004 and ending on July 11, 2008, Allied Marine provided various marine related services to the vessels in the CNMI, Guam, and various foreign ports.

The defendants, Pixley noted, made partial payments to Allied Marine for the services and that the last payment was made in July 2009.

Pixley said the defendants currently owe Allied Marine \$307,020.26, including principal and interest.

"This amount remains outstanding despite repeated demands for payment from Allied Marine," he said.

As a result of the defendants' failure to pay, Allied Marine currently has a maritime lien on the tugboat *Marianas Voyager*.

"The defendants have breached their agreement to pay Allied Marine for the services provided and identified herein," Pixley said.



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For more information, please call Vincene Asanuma at 323-8735.

Kilili wants food stamp MOU tweaked

Washington, D.C.—U.S. Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan is urging both Commonwealth negotiators and U.S. Department of Agriculture representatives to improve the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding governing the CNMI food stamp program. The MOU is currently up for renewal.

Sablan wrote early this month to acting Gov. Eloy Inos and Agriculture Undersecretary Kevin Concannon with five recommendations that would result in better benefits, especially for food stamp recipients on Tinian and Rota.

The five recommendations are: Higher benefits for Tinian and Rota, adjusted to take into account the higher cost of food on those islands.

Use of the Standard Utility Allowance, common in the rest of the U.S., which better accounts for household utility costs.

Resetting household asset limits to conform to the 2008 Farm Bill and allowing for annual inflation adjustments.

Assuring that when the number of food stamp users rises in the Northern Marianas, the available funding from the Agriculture De-

partment will rise, as well.

Requiring that the CNMI maintain consumer price information for each of the populated islands.

In his letter Sablan acknowledged that he is not a party to the negotiations between the CNMI and the federal executives. "However, now that the people of the Northern Marianas are represented in Congress, I have an obligation to ensure that all federal programs that residents of the CNMI are eligible for and are participating in are being utilized to the fullest extent possible." (PR)

NMC English, Math placement test schedule

The Northern Marianas College will be conducting English and Math placement tests on the following dates:

English Placement Test Schedule:

- Aug. 6: 8am – 11am, Room D-1
- Aug. 10: 1pm – 4pm, Room D-1
- Aug. 11: 1pm – 4pm, Room D-1
- Aug. 12: 1pm – 4pm, Room D-1
- Aug. 18: 9am – 12pm, Room A-6/A-7

Math Placement Test Schedule:

- Aug. 10: 10am – 12pm, Room A-5
- Aug. 12: 10am – 12pm, Room A-5
- Aug. 19: 10am – 12pm, Room A-5
- Aug. 20: 10am – 12pm, Room A-5

Those who wish to take courses at NMC must take the placement tests. Registration for NMC's Fall 2010 semester will begin on Monday, August 16, 2010.

There is a \$25 fee for each placement test that must be paid in advance at the NMC Cashier

(M-F, 8:30am – 4pm). No one will be allowed into the testing room without proof of payment (a receipt for the placement test fee, or the NMC application fee). Payment for the application fee will cover the English placement test fee.

Test takers must bring a valid photo ID (driver's license, passport or school ID) and pencils. No admittance to the testing room will be allowed after the starting time.

Calculators may be used when taking the math placement test. NMC students are not allowed to take the math placement test more than once. The only exception to this condition is for NMC students who have NOT taken a math class within one year of taking the math placement test.

If you have any questions about the English placement test, contact the Languages & Humanities Dept. at (670) 234-5498 ext. 1242 or 2017.

If you have any questions about the math placement test, contact the Sciences, Mathematics, Health & Athletics Dept. at (670) 234-5498 ext. 1200 or 1212.

For additional information about the placement tests, log on to www.nmcnet.edu. (NMC)



CNMI-OSHA ONSITE

Consultation Program

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Tel.: (670) 236-0913/0988/0989 • Fax: (670) 664-3158
Email: guerrero.ray@dol.gov



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Take the first step toward building a long-term cooperative safety and health management in your workplace. For additional information, please contact Mr. Reynaldo DeLeon Guerrero, for information and assistance.

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Business

Historic financial overhaul signed into law

WASHINGTON (AP)—Reveling over a new milestone in his presidency, a triumphant Barack Obama on Wednesday signed into law the most sweeping overhaul of lending and high-finance rules since the Great Depression, adding safeguards for millions of consumers and aiming to restrain Wall Street excesses that could set off a new recession.

The president's signing ceremony capped nearly two years of intense and partisan debate over how to avoid a recurrence of the 2008 financial meltdown that buckled the U.S. economy and left sharp, lasting imprints on the nation's politics and in Americans' homes.

"Because of this law, the American people will never be asked again to foot the bill for Wall Street's mistakes," Obama said.

In a heated midterm election season that has dented his public support, Obama sought to put the complex law in pocketbook terms. Emphasizing provisions that guard borrowers from abusive lenders, he claimed "the strongest financial protections for consumers in the nation's history."

Ford will offer hybrid at same price as gas model

DEARBORN, Mich. (AP)—For the first time, an American automaker plans to sell a hybrid car for the same, lower price as its gas-powered counterpart, removing at least one obstacle for drivers who want a greener ride.

At a little more than \$35,000, the 2011 Lincoln MKZ sedan won't be cheap, but the decision by Ford to match the prices of the two styles could lead competitors to follow suit with future models.

The hybrid MKZ, debuting this fall and running on both gas and electric power, will be a bargain after factoring in savings at the pump. It gets more than double the mileage of the traditional version in city driving.

While automakers won't reveal what they spend to install a hybrid system in a car, the final product



President Barack Obama signs the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection financial reform bill at the Ronald Reagan at the Ronald Reagan Building in Washington, Wednesday, July 21, 2010.

Not everyone agreed. Republicans portrayed the bill as a burden on small banks and the businesses that rely on them and argued that it will cost consumers and impede job growth.

Rep. Mike Pence of Indiana, a member of the House GOP leadership, on Wednesday joined House Minority Leader John Boehner of Ohio in calling for the law's repeal.

The law, passed despite nearly unanimous Republican opposition, attempts to catch up to a financial system that has sped ahead of outdated regulation

usually costs several thousand dollars more than a gas-powered version of the same car.

The Lexus HS 250h, the MKZ's closest competitor, costs about \$2,500 more than the Lexus IS, a similar, small, gas-powered sedan. Ford charges \$8,840 more for the hybrid version of its Ford Escape SUV.

The MKZ can still make money even if Lincoln doesn't charge more for the hybrid, said Erich Merkle, president of the consulting company Autoconomy.com. Luxury cars are sold at a significant premium, he said, ensuring a profit for Ford.

Lincoln can also borrow the hybrid system from the Ford Fusion, its corporate twin, and save on development costs.

"Conventional wisdom is that the hybrid should be priced

and slackened rules that allowed banks, traders and others to take increased risks.

Wall Street's near collapse, Obama said, "was a crisis born of a failure of responsibility from certain corners of Wall Street to the halls of power in Washington."

The new rules, however, are only at a midpoint. Banking and market regulators will have up to two years to write many of the new regulations required by the law, extending uncertainty and ushering in a new phase of lobbying by financial firms.

higher, but there's not really anything to say that a hybrid has to command a higher price," Merkle said.

Besides, Ford had to keep the price down, said Jessica Caldwell, an analyst for Edmunds.com. If it had sold for more than \$40,000, it would have faced tougher competition from luxury cars like the Mercedes E-Class or the Audi A6, she said.

"It's going to take moves like this one to break into the luxury market," she said.

Other automakers may not try to match Lincoln's move if it is limited to the MKZ, but they will have to take notice if Lincoln uses the same strategy with future hybrid models, said Aaron Bragman, an analyst with IHS Automotive.

Stocks drop as Bernanke warns of uncertain economy

NEW YORK (AP)—Stocks fell sharply Wednesday after Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke confirmed investors' fears that the economy has weakened. Interest rates dropped in the Treasury market as investors sought safer places for their money. Bernanke told a congressional committee that the economy is "unusually uncertain." He said the economy is fragile, but he did not forecast that it would fall back into recession. The Dow Jones industrial average, which was modestly higher before Bernanke's prepared remarks, fell 109 points as investors absorbed his assessment of the economy, and his statement that the Fed is ready to take action if the economy worsens. Bernanke's comments, part of his semiannual report to Congress, weren't surprising given the disappointing economic reports and corporate earnings numbers released in recent weeks.

Nation

Gathering storm halts Gulf oil well work

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—A storm brewing in the Caribbean brought the deep-sea effort to plug the ruptured oil well to a near standstill Wednesday just as BP was getting tantalizingly close to going in for the kill.

Work on the relief well—now just days from completion—was suspended, and the cap that has been keeping the oil bottled up since last week may have to be reopened, allowing crude to gush into the sea again for days, said retired Coast Guard Adm.

Thad Allen, the government's point man on the crisis.

"This is necessarily going to be a judgment call," said Allen, who was waiting to see how the storm developed before deciding whether to order any of the ships and crews stationed some 50 miles out in the Gulf of Mexico to head for safety.

The cluster of thunderstorms passed over Haiti and the Dominican Republic on Wednesday, and forecasters said the system would probably move into the Gulf over

the weekend. They gave it a 50 percent chance of becoming a tropical depression or a tropical storm by Friday.

Crews had planned to spend Wednesday and Thursday reinforcing with cement the last few feet of the relief tunnel that will be used to pump mud into the gusher and kill it once and for all. But BP put the task on hold and instead placed a temporary plug called a storm packer deep inside the tunnel, in case it has to be abandoned until the storm passes.

Texas mom told 911 operator she killed 2 children

DALLAS (AP)—A suburban Dallas mother accused of strangling her two young children told a 911 operator she killed them because they were autistic and she wanted "normal kids," according to a tape released Wednesday.

Irving police released the recording after Saiqa Akhter was charged with one count of capital murder in the strangling of her 5-year-old son, Zain Akhter, at the family's apartment Monday night. Po-

lice spokesman David Tull said another capital murder charge is pending in the slaying of her 2-year-old daughter, Faryaal Akhter, who died Tuesday night.

Police say the mother called 911 after attacking the children. In the recording, the woman identifies herself as Saiqa Akhter and repeatedly tells the operator she killed her two children, describing how she first tried to poison them, then later strangled them with

some type of wire. At one point during the recording, the woman hangs up and the dispatcher calls her back.

"I killed them. I killed both of them," she told the operator. Later, she explained that both children were lying motionless on the bed in the master bedroom.

"They are not doing anything. They are just blue and they are not taking any breaths and ... their heart is not beating," she said.

AK couple pleads guilty to lying about hit list

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—An Alaska couple accused in a domestic terrorism plot pleaded guilty Wednesday to federal charges of lying about the existence of a hit list of possible targets.

Paul Rockwood Jr. and his wife, Nadia Rockwood, of King Salmon, Alaska, were charged with lying about the list and making false statements about domestic terror-

ism during interviews with FBI agents in May.

The FBI alleged that the list had about 15 targets. Its contents were not made public.

Under a plea deal, Paul Rockwood would get eight years in prison. His wife, who is five months pregnant, would get five years probation in the United Kingdom, her country of origin.

U.S. District Judge Ralph

Beistline did not immediately sign off on the deal. He set sentencing for later.

Prosecutors alleged that Paul Rockwood, also known as "Bilal," converted to Islam about a decade ago and began studying the teachings of American-born cleric Anwar al-Awlaki, who has professed hatred for the United States and supports acts of terrorism.

ACROSS THE NATION

2 groups sue Nebraska city over immigration law

FREMONT, Neb. (AP)—The two lawsuits filed Wednesday against a small Nebraska city for its ban on renting and hiring illegal immigrants worried some in the community that it would only worsen tensions over the new ordinance. The American Civil Liberties Union and the Mexican American Legal Defense & Educational Fund, also known as MALDEF, filed lawsuits against Fremont, saying the voter-approved ordinance amounted to discrimination. "I'm so disappointed that a law like this could have passed here. I always thought in this day and age laws are meant to prevent discrimination, not encourage it," said Mario Martinez, a Mexican American who lives in Fremont with his wife and young child. The ordinance has divided much of the town. Supporters argue the measure was necessary to make up for what they see as lax federal law enforcement. Opponents say it could fuel discrimination. Both lawsuits filed Wednesday may not quell the debate, but the civil-rights groups hope they will end the ban.

Body found in field is missing California girl

MORENO VALLEY, Calif. (AP)—A body found in a rural field was identified Wednesday as that of a 17-year-old Southern California girl who was likely kidnapped while walking to a

friend's home after a summer class. An autopsy confirmed the identity of Norma Lopez, but investigators would not release the cause of death. "I don't want to believe it's her," family friend Melanie Villarreal, 18, told The Associated Press. "We know she's in a better place." Police and the FBI have not identified a suspect and have asked the public for help in the investigation. "We do have a few leads that we're still following up ... but I wouldn't say that we're any closer," Riverside County sheriff's Sgt. Joseph Borja said.

EMT with 'fireman's key' accused of NY sex attacks

NEW YORK (AP)—A city emergency medical technician who had special access via a universal "fireman's key" has been arrested on rape and other charges in the armed sexual assaults of five women and girls since 2001, police said Wednesday. Angus Pascall, 33, was arrested Tuesday in Brooklyn after a victim provided police with the license plate number of a car he was driving. The name of his attorney was not immediately available. The 20-year-old victim told investigators that an assailant forced her into a car at gunpoint on Monday afternoon and raped her. Earlier this month, an 11-year-old girl was attacked by a man with a gun in an elevator. Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said Pascall used the fireman's key—which can access subway grates and elevators—to control the elevator.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Big Oil plans rapid response to future spills

NEW YORK (AP)—Big Oil is trying to assure Washington it's prepared for the next big oil spill. ExxonMobil, Chevron Corp., Conoco Phillips and Shell Oil said Wednesday they've agreed to pool \$1 billion to form a new company that would respond to offshore oil spills at up to 10,000 feet underwater. The system would deploy equipment that could arrive at a spill within days and be fully operational within weeks, the companies said. Members of Congress investigating the explosion of the Deepwater Horizon oil rig have criticized the oil industry for being ill-prepared for a major oil spill, and regulators want the industry to develop a thorough spill containment plan. Meanwhile, the White House has imposed a moratorium on deepwater drilling, and oil company share prices have plunged. Stricter regulations are also likely on the way for offshore drillers.

Asia

US sets new sanctions vs NKorea

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—The Obama administration moved Wednesday to push new sanctions against North Korea over its nuclear weapons program, as Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and Defense Secretary Robert Gates showed solidarity with South Korea during a visit to the area that separates it from the North.

Clinton announced the new measures—targeting the sale or purchase of arms and related goods used to fund the communist regime's nuclear activities, and the acquisition of luxury items to reward its elite—after she and Gates toured the heavily fortified border in a symbolic trip four months after the sinking of a South Korean warship blamed

on the North.

The penalties are intended to further isolate the already hermetic North and persuade its leaders to return to talks aimed at getting it to abandon atomic weapons. The U.S. is also trying to forestall future provocative acts like the torpedoing of the Cheonan, which killed 46 South Korean sailors.

With specifics of the sanctions still being worked out, the more striking demonstration of U.S. resolve came when Clinton and Gates—in a first for America's top two cabinet members—together toured the demilitarized zone in the village of Panmunjom.

Under sporadic downpours and the watchful gaze of curious North Korean guards, they paid

tribute to the U.S., South Korean and international forces that patrol the world's last Cold War-era border. Sixty years after the fighting began, the peninsula remains divided in a state of war because the conflict ended in a truce, not a peace treaty.

At one point, in the Military Armistice Commission building where officials from North Korea and the U.N. Command meet for talks, Clinton and Gates stood briefly on North Korean soil while a North Korean soldier peered at them through a window.

Gates said the visit was intended “to send a strong signal to the North, to the region and to the world that our commitment to South Korea's security is steadfast.”

Taliban denounce Kabul meeting as sign of failure

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—The Taliban denounced this week's international conference on Afghanistan's future, saying the “vague and terrible agenda” shows that the U.S. and its allies intend to abandon the country and blame their ultimate defeat on the Afghan government.

Representatives of the U.S.

and 60 other countries met Tuesday to endorse President Hamid Karzai's plan for Afghan police and soldiers to take charge of security nationwide by 2014. Karzai also urged his international backers to distribute more of their development aid through his government.

In a statement posted in English on their website, the Taliban said the conference showed that the U.S. “has lost the initiatives and is unable to resolve Afghanistan issue.” The statement was distributed to news organizations by the SITE Intelligence Group that monitors extremist communications.

China flooding kills 701, worst toll in a decade

BEIJING (AP)—More than 1,000 people have died or disappeared in severe flooding in China so far this year, and the heaviest rains are still to come, a senior official warned Wednesday.

This year's floods, which have caused tens of billions of dollars in damage already, have exacted the highest death

toll since 1998, when the highest water levels in five decades claimed 4,150 lives.

With the typhoon season rolling in, Liu Ning, general secretary of the government's flood prevention agency, told a news conference authorities must ramp up preparations.

“Since 60 to 80 percent of the

annual rain level occurs in June, July and August, we should be prepared to prevent and combat potential disasters,” Liu said.

Tropical storm Chanthu is expected to hit China's southern island of Hainan and Guangdong province this weekend. Six to eight typhoons are expected this year.

ASIAN BRIEFS

US calls for probe on rights abuses in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)—A top U.S. diplomat urged Sri Lanka on Wednesday to investigate allegations of war crimes during its civil war and to resettle tens of thousands of displaced ethnic Tamils as a means of reconciliation. The United States also backs the United Nations' look into possible war crimes as Sri Lanka's 25-year civil war was ending last year, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asian Affairs Robert O. Blake told reporters. Sri Lanka opposes the advisory panel formed by U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon as infringing on its national sovereignty and has vowed not to give the panel members visas to enter the country. “Sri Lanka has a unique opportunity to forge a lasting peace and prosperity after decades of war,” Blake said. He added that keys to reconciliation are resettling the displaced, assuring accountability to redress past wrong, freeing institutions like police, judiciary, elections

commission and public service from political interference and ensuring media freedom.

Rights group: China used force at Tibetan protests

BEIJING (AP)—Chinese security forces fired indiscriminately on Tibetan protesters in 2008 and beat and kicked others until they lay motionless on the ground, a rights group said in a report citing the witnesses to clashes in which the government claims it acted with restraint. The Human Rights Watch report released Thursday gives a detailed examination—based on rare eyewitness accounts—of China's crackdown on the broadest anti-government uprising the country has faced from Tibetans in nearly 50 years. Riots started in the Tibetan capital of Lhasa and then spread to communities across China's west. Since the unrest, Beijing has sought to suppress accounts of rights abuses. It has flooded the region with troops, put Tibetans under tighter scrutiny, reduced the flow of international tourists and allowed in only a few

foreign reporters under government escort.

Japan hopes spy sheds light on NKorea abductions

TOKYO (AP)—Hoping to unravel a mystery that has haunted them for decades, the families of two Japanese abducted by North Korea met with a former spy who claims she knew the captives before she committed one of North Korea's most notorious acts of terrorism—the bombing of a South Korean airliner in 1987. The carefully orchestrated visit this week by former North Korean agent Kim Hyon-hui, who was sentenced to death but later pardoned for the bombing, has been hailed as a rare chance to re-examine one of the coldest of cold cases, the disappearance of 17 Japanese citizens Tokyo says were kidnapped by North Korea in the 1970s and '80s. But experts noted Kim has not lived in North Korea since her arrest after the bombing that killed 115 and was not likely have any fresh information.

World

Jokes, smiles—but trouble in US-British relationship?

LONDON (AP)—There were wide smiles, thoughtful gifts and polite—if corny—jokes.

But away from the cameras, some dark clouds hung over new British leader David Cameron's first trip to the White House for talks with President Barack Obama.

Mounting American anger at BP, a row over the release of the Lockerbie bomber, and sharp differences on the right medicine for economic ills have chipped away at the so-called special relationship.

The two leaders appear to have forged a warmer personal relationship than the one between Obama and Cameron's predecessor Gordon Brown. But they face a fundamental philosophical divide: Cameron embraces harsh austerity, Obama prefers aggressive stimulus.

UN chief to try to revive disarmament negotiations

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon has invited ministers from the 192 U.N. member states to a meeting in September to revitalize U.N. disarmament negotiations which have been deadlocked for more than a dozen years, U.N. officials said Wednesday.

The U.N. chief has been frustrated by the inaction of the Conference on Disarmament, which is supposed to be the U.N.'s main disarmament



President Barack Obama, right, and British Prime Minister David Cameron speak at a news conference in the East Room of the White House, Tuesday, July 20, 2010, in Washington.

Since his Conservative-led coalition ousted Brown's Labour Party in May, Cameron has made a dramatic reverse in British economic policy, ushering in steep cuts to public spending in order to clear the country's record national debt.

Obama, like his fellow center-left politician Brown, is wary of stalling fragile signs of growth—and had hoped international allies would back his plan of continuing pump priming measures as the best remedy to the financial crisis.

negotiating body. It has been stalemated since it wrote the nuclear test ban treaty in 1996 because its actions require agreement of all 65 nations that are members.

With many ministers expected for this year's high-level General Assembly session, Ban decided to hold a meeting on the sidelines on Sept. 24 to discuss ways to try to break the disarmament logjam, the U.N. officials and a Western diplomat said,

speaking on condition of anonymity because no public announcement has been made.

The secretary-general said in his opening speech to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty review conference in May that he wanted the Conference on Disarmament to begin negotiations immediately on a treaty banning the production of fissile materials—highly enriched uranium and plutonium needed to produce nuclear weapons.

WORLD BRIEFS

Scientists find most massive star ever discovered

LONDON (AP)—A huge ball of brightly burning gas drifting through a neighboring galaxy may be the heaviest star ever discovered—hundreds of times more massive than the sun, scientists said Wednesday after working out its weight for the first time. Those behind the find say the star, called R136a1, may once have weighed as much as 320 solar masses. Astrophysicist Paul Crowther said the obese star—twice as heavy as any previously discovered—has already slimmed down considerably over its lifetime. In fact, it's burning itself off with such intensity that it shines at nearly 10 million times the luminosity of the sun. “Unlike humans, these stars are born heavy and lose weight as they age,” said Crowther, an astrophysicist at the University of Sheffield in northern England. “R136a1 is already middle-aged and has undergone an intense weight loss program.”

Ex-Romanian dictator Ceausescu and wife exhumed

BUCHAREST, Romania (AP)—The mystery of where former Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu and his wife Elena were buried moved closer to resolution Wednesday after forensic scientists dug up their official graves in a hunt for DNA. Ceausescu ruled Romania for 25 years with an iron fist before being ousted and executed during the 1989 anti-communist revolt in which more than 1,000 people were killed. Many Romanians have doubted for years that the Ceausescus were really buried in the Ghencea military cemetery in west Bucharest. Still, they were shocked by the unannounced early-morning exhumation, part of a five-year lawsuit. “I never thought this would happen,” said Ioan Mirichi, 81, a former engineer visiting a family grave early Wednesday. “I didn't believe the rumors he wasn't buried here ... but I suppose the family must decide.”

French air traffic controller strike halts flights

PARIS (AP)—Hundreds of flights in France were canceled and smaller airports shut down Wednesday because of a strike by air traffic controllers worried about a plan to unify control of European air space. Half of flights in and out of Paris' Orly Airport and 10 percent of those out of Paris' Charles de Gaulle were called off, according to the French civil aviation authority, the DGAC. The strike affected many domestic routes, but national carrier Air France said its long-haul international flights were unperturbed. Some 30 percent of air traffic controllers took part, the DGAC said in a statement—less than originally expected, after two unions dropped out of the action. The strike, which began Tuesday night, was to end between 5 a.m. and 7 a.m. Thursday (0300-0500 GMT), according to the aviation authority. Air France said it was returning to a normal flight schedule Thursday.

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Coast Guard training prompt 911 calls in Alaska

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—To some 911 callers, it looked like a fiery plane crash just offshore of downtown Anchorage. Others thought it was a boat in trouble. The Coast Guard was practicing shooting emergency flares during a rescue exercise Tuesday morning, but no one informed city authorities who hustled fire crews to the scene after getting as many as half a dozen reports from worried callers. The Coast Guard says it won't happen again. Petty Officer David Mosley says such yearly training exercises are usually conducted at a range at nearby Fort Richardson, but space was not available for Tuesday's flare practice.

Thrift store gets laptop back after mistaken sale

COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho (AP)—An Idaho thrift store manager has her laptop back after it was accidentally sold for \$5 last week. Sandra Bechthold says she was stunned when a customer returned the computer to the store Tuesday. The man refused her offer of a reward and wouldn't even give them his last name. The man explained that his wife had heard about the mistake through the news and he decided to return the computer to the Women's Center Thrift Store. Bechthold told the Coeur d'Alene Press she didn't know how her laptop ended up among the items in the donation receiving room or how it ended up being sold without having a price tag. She ran a classified ad in the paper seeking its return but

had nearly given up when the man returned the computer.

NYC police make arrest in 'bouquet bandit' case

NEW YORK (AP)—A man dubbed the "bouquet bandit" because he held fresh flowers while robbing a Manhattan bank was arrested Wednesday at a Brooklyn home where he was hiding in a closet, police said. The publicity generated by a security photo—including front-page headlines in the city's tabloids—led to tips naming 44-year-old Edward Pemberton, Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said while announcing the arrest. Police officials later said that during questioning, Pemberton implicated himself in six bank heists since 2008. In one last year, he showed up with roses but left empty-handed, police said. The New York Police Department released the security photo on Monday amid a manhunt for a robber who walked into a bank last week carrying a bouquet neatly bundled in pink tissue paper and plastic. Hidden inside the arrangement was a note that read, "Give me all your \$100s, \$50s. Don't be a hero." A teller gave the suspect an undisclosed amount of cash. He fled on foot, leaving the flowers behind.

Cops: Man uses crucifix to break into donation box

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP)—Police arrested a man they said used a crucifix to pry open a donation box and steal cash from a Fort Lauderdale church. Surveillance video captured

a 48-year-old man breaking into St. John the Baptist Catholic Church last month and removing a crucifix from the altar. He was arrested Tuesday and charged with burglary and theft.

Mich. woman surprised to find marijuana in mail

BLACKMAN TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP)—Bills, catalogs, junk mail—marijuana? Indeed, police say a surprise 2-pound package of marijuana arrived in the mail last week at one elderly woman's home in southern Michigan's Blackman Township, which is about 75 miles west of Detroit. The woman called police. Detectives don't know who sent the weed. They learned that the Arizona return address on the package was bogus. Police say the pot is worth about \$2,400. Deputy Director Jon Johnston told The Jackson Citizen Patriot that the marijuana either was sent to the woman's home by mistake or someone planned to snatch it from the mailbox before she checked. The pot will be destroyed.

Big caiman spooks shoppers at Puerto Rico mall

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)—Puerto Ricans at a shopping mall were spooked by an unlikely intruder—a more than 5-foot-long (1.5-meter) caiman. Ana Maria Ramos, spokeswoman for Puerto Rico's Department of Natural Resources, said the big reptile was found Wednesday under a shopper's car at an outlet mall in the town of Canovanas. It was captured and taken to a shelter. No one was injured by the

caiman, which is native to Central and South America. Nonnative creatures have become a problem for Puerto Rico because of the U.S. island's lush tropical climate and lack of predators. Several species of snakes, iguanas and caimans—imported for sale as pets, then released into the wild—flourish on the island.

1-man rodeo: NYC's Naked Cow boy sues Naked Cowgirl

NEW YORK (AP)—It's not exactly the gunfight at the O.K. Corral. New York City's famous Naked Cowboy is headed to court to protect his trademark from the Naked Cowgirl. Robert Burck says Sandy Kane is damaging the brand he built through more than a decade of strumming his guitar wearing only briefs and a cowboy hat. He's earned as much as \$1,000 a day working Times Square from about 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Kane wears a bikini, cowboy hat and guitar in her role as the Naked Cowgirl. The federal suit filed Wednesday asks the court to keep Kane from doing anything that would violate Burck's trademark. Kane is a former stripper who's now a fixture of the city comedy scene. Her attorney says he hasn't seen the lawsuit, but Kane has the right to do what she's doing.

Utah man in doghouse for writing to wife's cat

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—A Utah man is accused of violating a protective order because he allegedly sent letters to his estranged wife's cat. Authorities

say 32-year-old Ronald Charles Dallas, of South Salt Lake, was ordered not to contact his wife, who is the alleged victim in a domestic violence case against him. Prosecutors allege Dallas mailed 11 letters from jail that were addressed to her cat Molly Judge and a neighbor, but were intended for his wife. They say the letters asked her not to testify against him. Dallas now faces 11 counts of violation of a protective order and two counts of tampering with a witness. His court-appointed attorney, Trent Ricks, says he couldn't comment until he speaks to his client.

Idaho man accused of keeping rattlers in apartment

MALTA, Idaho (AP)—An Idaho man who authorities say had 25 Western rattlesnakes in a five-gallon bucket in his apartment has been issued two misdemeanor citations by the state's Department of Fish and Game. Officials say Terry Brian Teeter had as many as 32 snakes but he gave some away and ate two others. The 38-year-old Teeter says he was unaware a license is needed to hunt rattlesnakes in Idaho. He says he also didn't know that there's a limit of four rattlers a year. Teeter says he was trying to find a buyer for the snakes and had contacted a Utah research center which milks snakes for venom. Teeter received the citations in May that list possession, transport or shipment of wildlife. He has a sentencing scheduled on Friday in district court on a possible plea agreement.

Science & Technology

Facebook passes 500M users

By JESSICA GUYNNE
LOS ANGELES TIMES

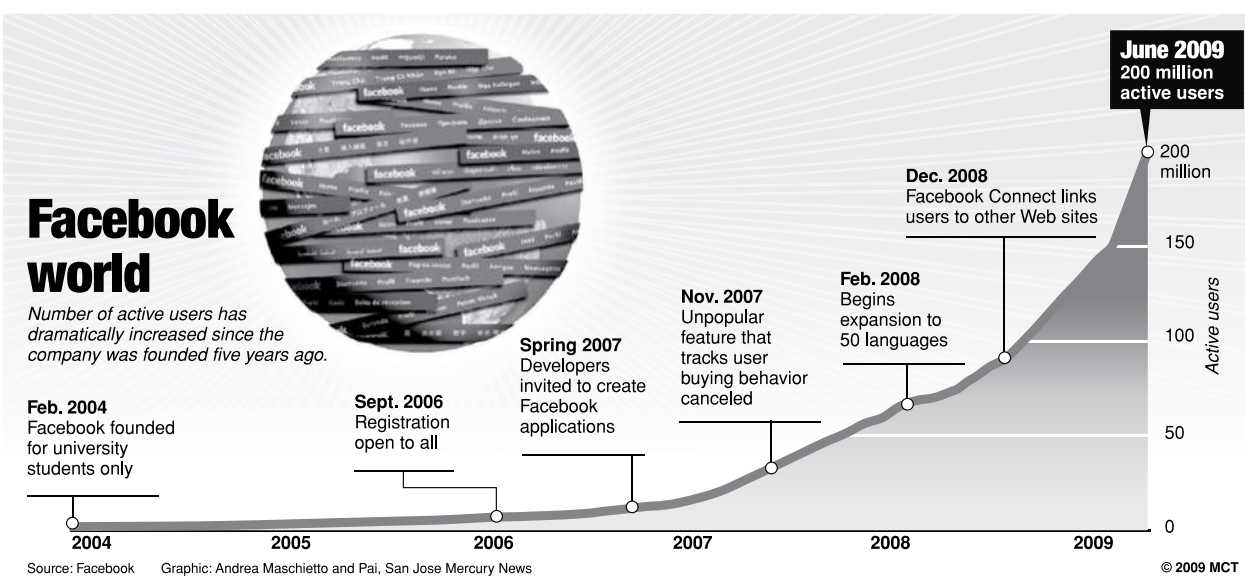
SAN FRANCISCO—Facebook Inc. on Wednesday issued its own eye-popping status update: The world's most popular social networking site had surpassed 500 million users.

And now, the Internet phenomenon that has transformed how the world communicates is eyeing another distinction—connecting one out of every seven human beings on the planet.

Six years after getting its start in a Harvard dorm room, Facebook said it was aiming to have 1 billion members, matching the reach of Internet search giant Google Inc.

If it can keep up its current breakneck pace, a feat that would defy predictions from analysts, Facebook could reach that goal by next year. "We all love to dream big around here," said Randi Zuckerberg, who handles marketing and is the sister of Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg. "We are going to take a day or so to celebrate 500 million users before we start thinking about going beyond that."

The site's runaway growth is nearly without precedent. Last summer, Facebook had 250 million users. It has amassed 100 million new members since February alone. Now if Facebook



were a country, it would be the world's third-largest.

All of which has lent credibility to Mark Zuckerberg's confident assertion that his company could almost "guarantee" growing to 1 billion active users despite a recent spate of privacy concerns and increasing competition from Google and others. Facebook defines active users as people who have logged onto the site within the past 30 days.

"I could have never imagined all of the ways people would use Facebook when we were getting started six years

ago," Zuckerberg wrote in a blog post Wednesday. Zuckerberg created Facebook as a place for college students to connect with one another. Since then it has been on a tear.

It eclipsed its former archrival, News Corp.'s MySpace, in April 2008. Facebook is the world's largest social networking site, shoulders above Twitter Inc. with 105 million users and LinkedIn Corp. with 70 million.

The privately held company does not disclose financial results, but people familiar with Facebook's finances

said revenue, mostly from advertising, could top \$1 billion this year, up from about \$550 million in 2009 and \$300 million in 2008. It has 1,400 employees at its Palo Alto, Calif., headquarters and more than 12 offices around the world.

Crushing the competition has freed up Facebook to pursue an even more ambitious goal: connecting all corners and crannies of the world. Even as U.S. growth begins to plateau, Facebook saw its international users increase 73 percent in the past year alone, said ComScore analyst Andrew Lipsman.

Digital movie locker 'UltraViolet' nears launch

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A group of media and electronics companies will soon start testing a system that will let you watch the movies and TV shows that you buy wherever you are, regardless of formats and other technical hurdles. Like ATMs, your account would follow you, no matter what brand of machine you use.

The group has also come up with a name for the open standard it is creating, which it unveiled Tuesday: UltraViolet.

Backers of the Digital Entertainment Content Ecosystem hope to kickstart growth of digital purchases of movies and TV shows, now just 4 percent of all sales, by freeing consumers of format concerns.

That would mirror the way that the use of automated teller machines exploded once all banks cooperated in processing transactions, said Mitch Singer, the chief technology officer for Sony Pictures Entertainment and president of the consortium, the Digital Entertainment Content Ecosystem.

The concept is to create a digital locker that stores tokens that are proofs of purchase of DVDs, Blu-ray discs and video downloads. When a consumer buys a video online or at a store, he can watch it anywhere else, including on any mobile device or TV set without the hassle of copying his personal files.

IN CELEBRATION OF HIS NEW LIFE

†Cpl. Dave Michael Santos

May 17, 1989 - July 15, 2010

Was called to join his creator at the age of 21 in Afghanistan.

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Lotty Ann Atalig Santos
Son: Anthony David Atalig Santos
Parents: David M. Santos & Isabella L. Maratita
 Charito Runge & Cary Runge
 Joseph Parks
Granparents: Margarita L. Maratita
 Deborah Mcmanues & Paul Mcmanues
 James Baker & Karen Baker
In-Laws: Anthony T. Atalig & Carmen Atalig
Reared Mother: Mayette Maliski

Brothers, Sisters & In-Laws:

Siblings: Darren Santos, Jewel Hope Santos, Dori Gene Santos, James Runge, John Alfred Runge, Joseph Parks, Jessica Parks, & Jorryn Parks
In-Laws: Derrick/Joaquina (Ej), Della/Ray (Keanu, Janet), Franklin/Joliann, (Aliana) Queena/Franco, & Anthony Jr.

In his new life, he now joins his:

Paternal Grandparents: †Andres M. Santos
 †Maria M. Santos
Maternal Grandparent: †Fermin C. Maratita
Brother: †Christopher Darryl Mendiola
Cousins: †CPL. Joe Junior G. Charfauros
 †Andres Schinohosen Santos
 †Leejay A. Santos
 †Tsai Damian Q. Maratita
Niece: †Augustina C. Manglona



He will also be missed by numerous uncles, aunties, cousins, nieces, nephews, & friends.

Mass of intention is being said nightly at the San Isidro Chapel in Sinapalo I, Rota, at 7:00pm followed by the rosary.

The arrival of his remains and the date of his funeral will be announced at a later date.

Please join us in Prayers,

Lotty Ann Atalig Santos - Anthony David Santos
 David M. Santos & Isabella L. Maratita
 Charito Runge & Cary Runge
 & Family



Life & Style

Authorities investigate Gibson's ex for extortion

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Sheriff's detectives are investigating a claim that Mel Gibson's ex-girlfriend Oksana Grigorieva engaged in attempted extortion against the actor-director, an official said Wednesday.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department spokesman Steve Whitmore declined to provide further details about the claim by lawyers for Gibson or say when the inquiry might conclude.

"Detectives will follow the investigation wherever it leads," Whitmore said.

Grigorieva's spokesman Stephen Jaffe denied any wrongdoing on the part of his client, a Russian singer.

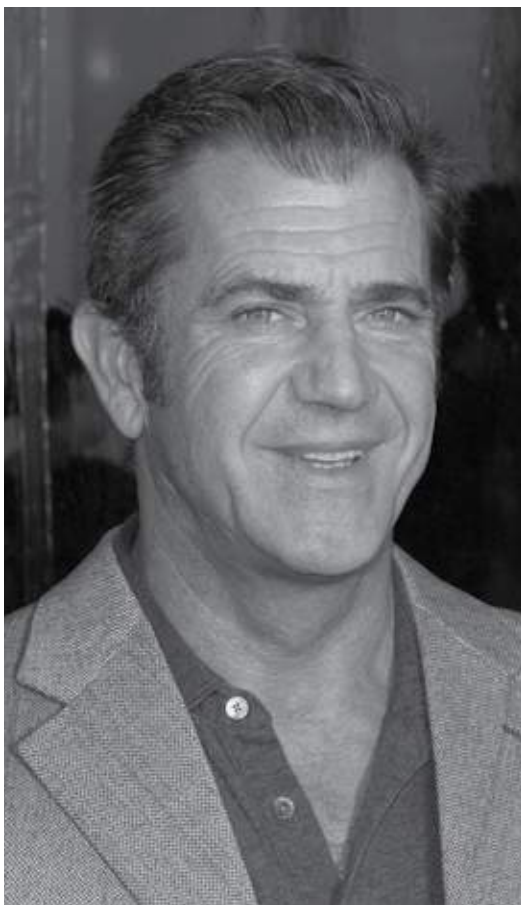
"To specifically address the allegations, my client, Ms. Grigorieva, has repeatedly stated that there is no credible evidence whatsoever of extortion by her, and she stands steadfastly by that statement," Jaffe said.

Detectives interviewed Grigorieva, 40, earlier this month after she claimed Gibson abused her during an incident in January.

Detectives received CDs of audio recordings that will be evaluated for a potential case against Gibson.

Authorities also attended a hearing last week in the former couple's custody dispute over their 8-month-old daughter. Records in that case are sealed.

Whitmore offered no timetable on when the case might be presented to the district attorney's office, which will decide whether to pursue charges against either Gibson or Grigorieva.



AP
In this Oct. 29, 2007 file photo, actor Mel Gibson arrives at the premiere of American Gangster in Los Angeles.

Schwarzenegger compares Mel Gibson to oil leak

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—The Terminator is taking a few shots at the Road Warrior.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger wise-cracked about Mel Gibson on Wednesday, comparing him to the Gulf of Mexico oil leak.

Schwarzenegger told a group of utility commissioners

in Sacramento that while BP appears to have contained its well, "no one has figured out how to contain Mel Gibson."

A celebrity website has posted audio recordings of what it says are Gibson's profanity-laced tirades against his ex-girlfriend.

Schwarzenegger also told

participants to turn off their cell phones "because we are expecting a call from him."

Gibson spokesman Alan Nierob says he is happy to hear that Schwarzenegger is maintaining a sense of humor, adding, "He's obviously paving the way for a return to showbiz."

E-sales big for Stieg Larsson's Millennium trilogy

NEW YORK (AP)—It's electronic milestone time for Stieg Larsson's Millennium trilogy.

The late Swedish author's blockbuster thrillers have sold more than 1 million copies in the e-book editions, publisher Alfred A. Knopf said Wednesday, making him at least the second author to join the e-million club. The ultra-prolific James Patterson also has more than 1 million e-book sales.

Amazon.com, the biggest player in the growing e-book market, told The Associated Press on Wednesday that Larsson's "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo," the first book in the Millennium trilogy, is

the all-time top seller on the e-book reading device the Kindle. Kathryn Stockett's novel "The Help" is No. 2.

Knopf lauded the sales of "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo," about a journalist and a tattooed investigator trying to solve a decades-old disappearance.

"We are witnessing record-breaking sales for 'The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo' in trade and mass market paperback as well as in audio, so it is not surprising that this trend is being mirrored with e-books," Knopf spokesman Paul Bogaards said.

"Dragon Tattoo" has sold 500,000 e-books, Bogaards said. Sales for the trilogy in all

editions top 30 million worldwide; in the U.S. alone, more than 400,000 copies are selling each week.

Bogaards also backed up a report earlier this week by Amazon that said the Internet retail giant was selling more e-books than hardcovers. Kindle sales for the most recent Larsson book, "The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest," have topped those for the hardcover, said Bogaards, who added that he did not think hardcover sales had been hurt by the less expensive e-edition.

Larsson does not top every list. A spokesman for Sony's e-book reading device, the Sony Reader, said Wednesday that "Dragon Tattoo" was the e-device's No. 2 all-time seller, trailing Dan Brown's "The Lost Symbol." Patterson's "Alex Cross" is No. 3.



Larsson

Despite short jail stint, Lohan won't be back soon

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Lindsay Lohan's time in jail will be short, but her time away from the public eye will be much longer.

Sheriff's officials say the actress will spend only about two weeks of a 90-day sentence in jail. But her brief time in an isolation cell that has housed other celebrities such as Paris Hilton and Michelle Rodriguez is just one element of a sentence that is designed to punish and rehabilitate the star.

Once Lohan is released in early August, she will be required to report to probation officials within a day. She has also been ordered to spend three months at an inpatient rehab.

That portion of her sentence won't be trimmed like her jail stint by overcrowding and credits for good behavior.

"It's a straight 90 days," prosecutor Danette Meyers said Tuesday.

The result is that the "Mean Girls" and "Georgia Rules" star will be unavailable until late this year to start filming a biopic of porn actress Linda Lovelace. She will be equally unavailable to promote her role as a gun-toting nun in Robert Rodriguez's "Machete," which marks her return to the big screen in September.

It amounts to lost time for the once-promising actress, whose movements have been restricted since she missed a court date



AP
Lindsay Lohan is shown in a court, Tuesday, July 20, 2010, in Beverly Hills, Calif., where she was taken into custody to serve a jail sentence for probation violation.

in May. It remains to be seen whether Lohan can replicate a post-jail rebound similar to Michelle Rodriguez, who had a prominent role in last year's blockbuster "Avatar" and appears in "Machete."

Lohan's acting career has floundered since 2007, the year she was arrested twice and charged with drunken driving and drug charges. Her plea deal kept her out of jail for all but 84 minutes, but she has struggled with the terms of her probation.

Most of her problems have involved attendance at a state-mandated alcohol education class. The revelation that she missed seven sessions since December, when a judge ordered her weekly participation, led to

her return to jail and the new probation terms.

Ironically, Lohan's attorney filed proof with the court Tuesday that she had completed the program. Moments later the nervous-looking actress rose from her chair and was handcuffed by a bailiff.

She was led to a lockup cell as her estranged father yelled out a message of support, then whisked by car to the women's jail. Cameras documented every move, except for the actual handcuffing, which the judge barred photographers from shooting.

It was more time in front of the cameras for a woman who has been filmed since she was a child, but once again not in the role most people pay to see.

Death and Funeral Announcement

John Thomas Ada

March 27, 1961 – July 5, 2010

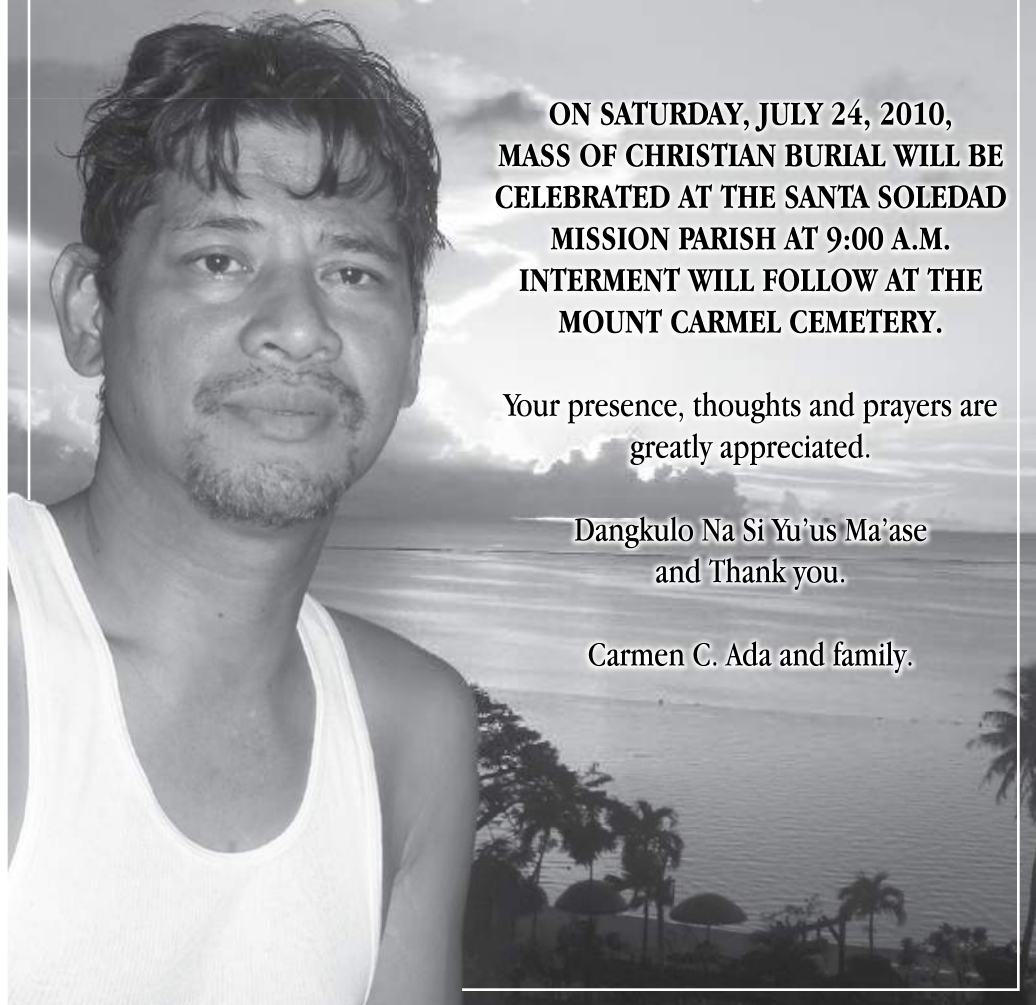
Passed away at the age of 49, in Grenada Hills, California.

ON SATURDAY, JULY 24, 2010,
MASS OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL WILL BE
CELEBRATED AT THE SANTA SOLEDAD
MISSION PARISH AT 9:00 A.M.
INTERMENT WILL FOLLOW AT THE
MOUNT CARMEL CEMETERY.

Your presence, thoughts and prayers are
greatly appreciated.

Dangkulo Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase
and Thank you.

Carmen C. Ada and family.



Bristol Palin: Mom disapproves of engagement

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)—Bristol Palin says she doesn't have her mother's support when it comes to her re-engagement to Levi Johnston.

Palin tells *Us Weekly* in an interview posted online Wednesday that Sarah Palin "doesn't really approve" of her reconnection with the 20-year-old father of the teen's toddler son, Tripp.

Nineteen-year-old Bristol says both her mother—a former Alaska governor and 2008 vice presidential nominee—and father Todd worry that she'll get hurt again.

Relations between the



In this magazine cover image released by *Us Weekly*, Bristol Palin, daughter of 2008 Republican vice-presidential candidate and former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, poses with Levi Johnston and their son Tripp on the cover of the July 26, 2010 issue of "Us Weekly" magazine.

Palins and Johnston and his family have frequently been strained since the couple broke off their first engagement soon after their son was born in late

December 2008.

Bristol Palin says she broke the news about the re-engagement to her mother over the phone.

Nickelodeon sets 'Last Airbender' spinoff for 2011

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A spinoff from Nickelodeon's "Avatar: The Last Airbender" is in the works.

The channel said Wednesday the new animated TV series will premiere in 2011. It has the working title, "The Legend of Korra."

Nickelodeon says the series

will build on the "mythology" of the original "The Last Airbender" series, which inspired this summer's live-action movie from filmmaker M. Night Shyamalan.

The "Legend of Korra" is from the creator-producers of "Avatar: The Last Airbender."

Nickelodeon executive Brown

Johnson says the new series will focus on a teenage girl avatar named Korra. Brown describes her as hotheaded, independent and "ready to take on the world."

"Avatar: The Last Airbender" has ranked among the highest-rate series on the Nickelodeon and Nicktoons channels.

Jill Jackson's Hollywood

By JILL JACKSON
(C) 2010 KING FEATURES SYND. INC.

HOLLYWOOD—I'm off again on David Letterman. I cannot understand why he thinks dumping things off the roof of the Ed Sullivan Theater onto Broadway is fun and games. Most recently tossed were bottles and bottles of champagne. In the past it has been flour, televisions and super balls. But who's to knock success?

Names I can't resist: Yoshimoto Kogyo. This is Japan's leading talent agency and handles all the deals for actors and etc. in that country. Try it in your next spelling bee. And never mind the name. I understand the agency just closed a deal for \$674 million. I don't know if old Will Shakespeare meant anything about this particular agency when he wrote, "What's in a name?" But this one is certainly BIG in the business.

The little town of Beverly

Hills won't soon forget the mobs that filled the streets outside the courthouse when Lindsay Lohan appeared for her violation of probation hearing and was sentenced to 90 days in jail. One punster declared that once she serves her sentence, we will know the real color of her hair. They don't provide dye in the "pokey." Marilyn Monroe has been the only actress who has created as much commotion, and it wasn't for the same reason.

Chris Pine loves the legitimate theater and takes to the stage whenever he isn't before the cameras. At this writing he is onstage in Los Angeles in a black comedy titled "The Lieutenant of Inishmore."

Back to another name that baffles: From the Czech Republic comes word that Srdan Koljevic directs a film titled "The Woman With The Broken Nose," and at the risk of being corny, that's all I "knows" about it.

He's not on the big screen, but he is big on the little one. Larry King announced he's wrapping up his talk show after 25 years. Certainly not the leading-man type, he has had his share of female partners and has been married seven times. And also if you watch his show on CNN, you might wonder how many pairs of suspenders he owns. Closets full, I guess.

BITS 'N' PIECES: What with Paris out of town, and Lindsay tucked away, we now have only Britney, and at the moment she seems to be quite subdued. ... Tom Cruise reportedly took a substantial cut from his usual \$20 million paycheck for action-thriller "Knight and Day." ... And speaking of hair color, Elizabeth Taylor goes from white to black to blonde. In any color and at any age, she is still a beauty. ... Charles is Robert Redford's first name. Robert is his middle name. He liked that best, and so it is first.

Clooney to receive TV academy's humanitarian award

LOS ANGELES (AP)—George Clooney will be recognized for his humanitarian efforts at the Emmy Awards.

The Academy of Television Arts and Sciences will present the 49-year-old actor with its Bob Hope Humanitarian Award at the ceremony next month.

Clooney is being honored for the "Hope for Haiti" U.S. TV special, which is nominated for an Emmy award, and his efforts to raise funds for victims of Hurricane Katrina and raise awareness about genocide in Darfur.

John Shaffner, chairman and chief executive of the TV academy,

said Clooney was "an obvious choice" for the award because he used the power of television to move people to act.

The Bob Hope Humanitarian Award was established in 2002. Clooney is the fourth recipient of the honor and will receive the award at the Emmy ceremony on Aug. 29.

Instruments from Elvis' embalming to be auctioned

CHICAGO (AP)—Instruments used in Elvis Presley's autopsy and embalming are going up for auction in Chicago, including the "John Doe" toe tag used after the original was stolen amid the chaos at the hospital following his death.

Leslie Hindman Auctioneers will hold the auction Aug. 12,

four days before the 33rd anniversary of Presley's death.

The auction house said Tuesday that all of the items used in the autopsy and funeral preparations will be available, from rubber gloves and forceps to a comb and eye liner. Even the coffin invoice and the hanger

used to hold Presley's burial suit will be sold.

The items were saved by the senior embalmer at the Memphis Funeral Home, which prepared the singer's body.

The items will be auctioned in two sets valued at up to \$6,000 and \$8,000.

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	<p>\$5.50 Bargain Matinees - All Shows Before 6PM</p> <p>\$5.50 All Day Admission For Seniors</p> <p>\$4.50 All Day Admission For Kids (ages 3-11)</p> <p>\$5.50 Student Admission with Valid I.D.</p> <p>\$5.50 Military with Valid I.D.</p>	
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TIMEWARP TUESDAY \$5.50 ALL SHOWS ALL DAY/NIGHT (EXCLUDING HOLIDAYS AND RESTRICTED FEATURES)

RESERVE TICKETS ONLINE AT www.gohollywood.com

For Friday, July 23rd through Thursday, July 29th

OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK

★ ★ ★ NOW SHOWING ★ ★ ★

<p>Salt</p> <p>Friday and Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:55</p> <p>Sun through Thurs 1:25 4:25 7:25</p> <p>Angelina Jolie, Liev Schreiber</p> <p>Thriller • Rated PG 13</p>	<p>Synopsis</p> <p>Angelina Jolie stars as a CIA operative on the run in the spy thriller <i>Edwin A. Salt</i>, a Columbia Pictures production from writer Kurt Wimmer (<i>Equilibrium</i>). Actor/director Phillip Noyce helms the picture, which focuses on the plight of a government agent who's been wrongly accused of being a Russian assassin out to take down the U.S. president.</p>
<p>Ramona and Beezus</p> <p>Friday and Saturday 1:10 4:20 7:10 9:35</p> <p>Sun through Thurs 1:10 4:20 7:10</p> <p>Sandra Oh, Bridget Moynahan</p> <p>Children's family • Rated G</p>	<p>Synopsis</p> <p>Award-winning short filmmaker Elizabeth Allen follows up her debut feature, <i>Aquamarine</i>, with this adaptation of the Newbury Award-winning children's book series by author Beverly Cleary. Scribe Laurie Craig steps in to assume screenwriting duties for the live-action feature centering on the adventures of mischievous youngster Ramona Quimby.</p>

★ ★ ★

<p>Inception</p> <p>Friday and Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:50</p> <p>Sun through Thurs 1:00 4:00 7:00</p> <p>Leonardo DiCaprio, Marion Cotillard</p> <p>Action, Science fiction • Rated PG 13</p>	<p>Synopsis</p> <p>Warner Bros. presents the new film by The Dark Knight's Christopher Nolan, this one taking on a sci-fi psychological spin for the serious-minded action auteur, with Leonardo DiCaprio spearheading the cast. Emma Thomas serves as producer, with Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Ken Watanabe, Marion Cotillard, Cillian Murphy, and Ellen Page rounding out the supporting roles.</p>
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<p>The Sorcerer's Apprentice</p> <p>Friday and Saturday 1:20 4:10 7:20 9:30</p> <p>Sun through Thurs 1:20 4:10 7:20</p> <p>Nicolas Cage, Jay Baruchel</p> <p>Fantasy, Children's/family • Rated PG</p>	<p>Despicable Me</p> <p>Friday and Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:40</p> <p>Sun through Thurs 1:05 4:05 7:05</p> <p>Steve Carell, Jason Segel</p> <p>Comedy, Children's/family • Rated PG</p>
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<p>Twilight Saga: Eclipse</p> <p>Friday and Saturday 1:30 4:30 7:30 10:00</p> <p>Sun through Thurs 1:30 4:30 7:30</p> <p>Robert Pattinson, Kristen Stewart</p> <p>Fantasy • Rated PG 13</p>	<p>The Last Airbender</p> <p>Friday and Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:45</p> <p>Sun through Thurs 1:15 4:15 7:15</p> <p>Noah Ringer, Nicola Peltz</p> <p>Adventure, Family • Rated PG</p>
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Siblings suffer consequences of mom's disregard for truth

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: My mother has a long history of lying in what appears to be her attempt to manipulate others. She is now 75, and my siblings and I know not to accept anything she says as the truth, and to always check with each other in order to find out the whole story.

The other day she lied to me about a doctor's appointment. Shortly after I talked to her, my sister called me, furious about what Mom had really done. I called Mom back that evening to give her a chance to tell the truth. Instead, she made up another lie to cover up what she had done. That's when I told her I had already spoken to my sister.

The whole situation makes me very sad, which I told her. I let her know I am "on to her" and have decided to give both of us some time to think about the situation. I know you can't teach an old dog new tricks, and I have given up trying.

I love Mom, but her continued manipulation of others has driven me away from her. Is there any way for her to see how much her inappropriate behavior affects those of us who care about her?

SAD SON IN AUSTIN, TEXAS

DEAR SAD SON: No. And by cross-checking whatever your mother tells you with your siblings, you are handling a difficult situation as well as you can.

DEAR ABBY: Our 19-year-old son is home from college for the summer and he "knows everything." His father and I have told him to wash all fruits and vegetables we buy fresh from the market before eating them. He feels this is not important and continues to eat apples, strawberries and lettuce directly from the container or plastic bag without rinsing them.

Please let me know if our fears are real. I have always been told washing is necessary. I would love to show him something on this subject because he thinks I'm silly and overprotective.

MOTHER KNOWS BEST IN TEXAS

DEAR M.K.B.: If seeing it in print will get your son's attention, I'm happy to oblige. Have him try this experiment: The next time he decides to eat a nice, shiny apple, have him soak it for 5 to 10 minutes in water to which several tablespoons of vinegar have been added. This will remove the waxy coating that is usually sprayed on them, and with it any dirt or "little critters" that may have become attached.

Also, periodically on the nightly news we hear announcements of FDA recalls because of salmonella or E. coli that has been discovered on various vegetables. Although some are packaged as ready-to-eat, they, too, should be rinsed before using. Consider it "health insurance."

DEAR ABBY: I am the parent of a child with special needs. To an outsider he looks different; adults and children stare at him when we're out.

My son is not aware of their impolite behavior, but I am—and it really irks me. What should I say to these insensitive people?

BOILING MAD IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR BOILING MAD: I don't think you should say anything. It is not unusual for individuals of every age to do a double take when they see someone—or something—that is "different." Of course staring is impolite, but unless someone makes a remark or asks a question about your son, you should ignore the person.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)



Dear Abby

Food poisoning postpones Elton John's Ariz concert

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP)—A bout of food poisoning has caused the postponement of Elton John's scheduled concert at Tucson Arena.

The Arizona Daily Star reports that Wednesday night's show was nearly sold out with about 8,800 tickets purchased. Organizers say the British rocker will perform Thursday night instead. A spokeswoman for the Tucson concert venue says John apologizes for the inconvenience caused by his illness, but doctors say he will be fine to take the stage Thursday.

Publicist: Christina Applegate expecting her first child



In this July 19, 2010 photo, actress Christina Applegate arrives with her husband Martyn Lenoble at the 2010 VH1 Do Something Awards in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—She's already beaten breast cancer, so motherhood should be a snap for Christina Applegate.

The 38-year-old actress is expecting her first child with her fiancé, Dutch musician Martyn Lenoble (mar-TAN' luh-NO'-bul).

Applegate's publicist, Ame

Van Iden, confirmed a report that first appeared Wednesday on People.com. The baby's due date hasn't been announced.

The former star of TV's "Samantha Who?" and "Married ... With Children" had a double mastectomy in July 2008 and reconstructive surgery months later. She is now cancer-free.

Foxy Brown arrested in NY over order of protection

NEW YORK (AP)—Police say rapper Foxy Brown has been arrested in New York City for allegedly violating an order of protection.

A police spokesman said he had no details on the arrest Wednesday in Brooklyn, which is not Brown's first brush with the law.

Brown pleaded guilty in 2008 to menacing a neighbor with her cell phone. The rapper and neighbor Arlene Raymond got into a fight in July 2007 over Brown blasting her car stereo outside their building.

The 30-year-old entertainer also spent seven months in jail for a Manhattan case involving a fight with manicurists in a nail salon.



In this Wednesday, Aug. 22, 2007 picture, Foxy Brown, whose birth name is Inga Marchand, enters Manhattan criminal court, in New York.

Brown's real name is Inga Marchand.

A lawyer for Brown did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

CBS to launch celebrity-hosted daytime talk show

LOS ANGELES (AP)—CBS will take a new view of daytime after the end of "As the World Turns."

When the soap opera concludes its 54-year run in September, it will be replaced by an hour-long daily talk show with six celebrity co-hosts—all women, an echo of ABC's popular "The View" series.

CBS announced Wednesday that the hosts of the as-yet untitled daytime show include Sharon Osbourne; Sara Gilbert of TV's "Roseanne" fame; Holly Robinson Peete from "Celebrity Apprentice;" Broadway actress Marissa Jaret Winokur; Leah Remini of "The King of Queens;" and Julie Chen, who hosts CBS' "Big Brother" and "The Early Show."

Gilbert developed the program, which will be the network's only daytime talk show, and is its executive producer.



Remeni

It's set for a fall debut, but a specific date was not announced.

The show will take a moms' view of entertainment and news stories. The hosts all have children, ranging in age from infants to adults.

Chen will give up her "Early Show" co-anchor role but will continue to appear on the morning program, CBS News said. Chen, who is married to CBS Chief Executive Leslie Moonves, will remain as "Big Brother" host.

The decision to air the series was made by CBS Entertainment President Nina Tassler, CBS spokesman Chris Ender said.

The pilot stood out as a "show with a familiar form but with big personalities and a distinct point of view coming through the lens of moms," Ender said. "It broadens our slate of daytime shows, and we think it has the potential to stand out and make some noise."

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Rage Against the Machine to plug Arizona boycott

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Rage Against the Machine will push for artists and musicians to boycott Arizona because of its new and restrictive immigration law. The politically outspoken rap-rock band's lead singer, Zach de la Rocha, plans to announce Wednesday that proceeds from a concert in Los Angeles on Friday will go to organizations fighting against Arizona's law. De la Rocha, guitarist Tom Morello, singer-songwriter Conor Oberst and United Farm Workers co-founder Dolores Huerta will also throw their support behind Sound Strike, an artists' boycott of Arizona. Norteno superstars Los Tigres del Norte, Colombian rock singer Juanes, salsa-ska band Ozomatli and Puerto Rican reggaeton duo Calle 13 have signed on, along with veteran

alternative rockers Sonic Youth, rapper Kanye West and the English electronica collaborative Massive Attack.

Sutton Foster back on Broadway in 'Anything Goes'

NEW YORK (AP)—Tony winner Sutton Foster is returning to Broadway in a revival of "Anything Goes." Roundabout Theatre Company announced Wednesday that its new production of the classic Cole Porter musical will begin performances next March and officially open on April 7 at the Stephen Sondheim Theatre. It will be directed and choreographed by Tony award-winner Kathleen Marshall. Starring as Reno Sweeney, Foster has appeared on Broadway in such past productions as "Young Frankenstein" and "Thoroughly Modern Millie," for which she won a Tony award. "Anything

Goes," with music and lyrics by Porter, premiered on Broadway in November 1934.

David Schwimmer film 'Trust' to debut in Toronto

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP)—David Schwimmer's latest directorial effort, "Trust," will premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival in September. The movie was shot last year in Michigan and marks the former "Friends" star's second time directing a feature film. The film's publicist Cid Swank says Toronto's the "perfect festival for everyone to see the finished movie for the first time." It's about the fallout from an attack by an online sexual predator and stars Clive Owen, Catherine Keener and Viola Davis. The film is set in the Chicago suburbs but was largely filmed in Michigan.

Pa. labor officials defend 'Kate Plus 8' permits

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Pennsylvania's labor department is defending its decision to issue work permits to Kate Gosselin's sextuplets for the reality show "Kate Plus 8." A statement from the Department of Labor & Industry says the children are not being "unlawfully exploited" by the filming at their home in Wernersville. State Rep. Thomas Murt questioned the permits last week, saying Pennsylvania law allows children under 7 to work in movies, but not TV. Gosselin's sextuplets are 6. Labor officials said Tuesday that the permits protect the children from working too many hours and ensure they receive earnings from the TLC show. Murt maintains the permits are illegal. He says the labor department must seek a ruling from the attorney general.

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Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$27
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
■ All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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received by July 23, 2010 at 5:00 pm.
Winning bidder shall be notified in writing.
The Bank reserves the right to reject any or all offer.

REQUEST for PROPOSALS
MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST
RFP 10-02
INVESTMENT in a LOCAL HIGH YIELD LOAN PROGRAM
This is a request for any and all investment proposals from interested parties or firms seeking capital sources or funding for projects or ventures within the CNMI.
MPLT Board of Trustees has recently updated its Asset Allocation and determined that a percentage (5%) of its total investment portfolio (\$3.36 million) shall be devoted to a local investment program. This local investment program will be designated as high yield investments since the associated risks are much higher than those of publicly traded investment grade securities. The reasons for this are as follows:
■ Challenges to obtaining sufficient capital for projects or ventures.
■ Associated promissory notes cannot be traded or sold thus have no liquidity.
■ Associated promissory notes are not rated and considered less than investment grade.
■ Often the local private or public sector proposer's ability to repay the loan is challenged.
■ Credit rating for such borrowers is often low.
■ Ability to raise capital or obtain credit is limited.
■ Maximum exposure for each investment cannot be controlled.
■ Sufficient collateral beyond those acquired with loan proceed is limited.
As a high yield investment, MPLT may limit the duration for each investment to not more than five years. This is **not** a low-income or low interest rate program. Interest rates will be determined based upon risk and duration. Due to the higher risks associated with this type of investment, a risk premium will be added to the base interest rate.
Proposal information and guidelines under this program can be obtained at the MPLT office as shown below.
Five (5) copies plus one original of the sealed proposals must be submitted to the MPLT Office, 1313 Anatahan Drive, Capital Hill Saipan, MP 96950 no later than 2:00 PM, on August 25, 2010. Proposals must be sealed and marked **"Local High Yield Loan Program, RFP 10-02"**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.
The MPLT reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if to do so shall be in its best interests. All proposals shall become the exclusive property of the MPLT.
Phillip Mendiola-Long
Chairman

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Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749
Attorney for Bank of Guam
**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**
BANK OF GUAM, } Civil Action
Plaintiff, } No. 08-0349-CV
vs. }
JESUS S. BARCINAS, } **NOTICE**
Defendant. } **OF SALE**
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued by the Court in this matter on May 14, 2010, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in the following property.
1) Lot EA 120-2, located in As Falipe, Garapan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 2,165 square meters, more or less; and
2) Lot EA 459-1-2, located in As Falipe, Garapan, Saipan, containing an area of 1,199 square meters, more or less.
Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on August 5, 2010, at the hour of 10:00 am, at the Law Office of Robert T. Torres, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public and will be held in reserve.
Terms and Conditions of Sale.
1. Rights and duties of Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
a) withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
b) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
c) To reject any and all bids.
2. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, PO Box 5003758 CK, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 670-234-7859; Fax: 670-234-5749.
3. Deposit/ Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash or cashier's check. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the property will revert to the Bank of Guam.
4. Change of Terms. Auctioneer and the Bank of Guam reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct an enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
5. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.
DATED this 17th day of June, 2010.
/s/ Robert T. Torres, Auctioneer

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**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP10-CHC-137



SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 25, 2010 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

**“MEDICAL REFERRAL TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICAL SUPPORT
IN THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER - MEDICAL REFERRAL SERVICES”**


THE RFP PACKAGE MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT
AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 11, 2010 AT 9:00 A.M. AT THE COMMON-
WEALTH HEALTH CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM. ALL QUESTIONS OR INQUIRIES FOR
CLARIFICATION IS DUE ON AUGUST 16, 2010, CLOSE OF BUSINESS AND SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO
MR. RONALD D. SABLAN, MANAGER, MEDICAL REFERRAL SERVICES AT TEL. (670) 236-8294,
BY FAX TO (670) 236-8604 OR VIA E-MAIL AT medrefspn@gmail.com

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW
15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH
PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.


/s/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ
SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S



**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP10-CHC-136



SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 24, 2010 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

**“MEDICAL COORDINATOR PROVIDER IN THE REPUBLIC OF
THE PHILIPPINES FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH
CENTER - MEDICAL REFERRAL SERVICES”**

THE RFP PACKAGE MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT
AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 10, 2010 AT 9:00 A.M. AT THE COMMON-
WEALTH HEALTH CENTER CONFERENCE ROOM. ALL QUESTIONS OR INQUIRIES FOR
CLARIFICATION IS DUE ON AUGUST 13, 2010, CLOSE OF BUSINESS AND SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO
MR. RONALD D. SABLAN, MANAGER, MEDICAL REFERRAL SERVICES AT TEL. (670) 236-8294,
BY FAX TO (670) 236-8604 OR VIA E-MAIL AT medrefspn@gmail.com

PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW
15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH
PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED.

/s/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ
SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S



**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

INVITATION TO BID
ITB10-RDOL-110



SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: AUGUST 10, 2010 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**“OFFICE SPACE RENTAL FOR DEPARTMENT
OF LABOR - ROTA BRANCH”**


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PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST
BE SUBMITTED WITH THE BID IF PREFERENCE IS CLAIMED

THE LESSOR MUST COMPLY WITH CNMI PUBLIC LAW 15-23, ARTICLE 5, SECTION
8652 (A) - (D).


/s/ MELCHOR A. MENDIOLA
MAYOR OF ROTA

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S



**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

INVITATION TO BID
ITB10-DPW/ED-130



SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: AUGUST 10, 2010 • TIME: 1:00 P.M.

**“SUPPLY AND DELIVER OF HOME ENERGY
OFFICE KIT FOR DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC
WORKS - ENERGY OFFICE”**

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DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN DURING REGULAR
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MENT ACT (ARRA) OF 2009 THROUGH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT
AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING
FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

/s/ MICHAEL J. ADA
Secretary of Commerce

/s/ THELMA B. INOS
Energy Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT



Opening Date: Thursday, July 15, 2010

Closing Date: August 05, 2010

JVA NO.	Position Title	Positions (s)	*Salary	Contract	Location
10-033	Grants Officer	1	\$35,000 to \$49,000 per year; un-graded, un-classified	Two years	Water and Wastewater Divisions, Saipan
10-034	Grants Specialist	1	\$33,000 to \$46,000 per year; un-graded, un-classified	Two years	Water and Wastewater Divisions, Saipan
10-035	Engineer	3	\$43,000 To \$60,000 per year un-graded; un-classified	Two Years	Water and Wastewater Divisions, Saipan
10-036	Engineer	2	\$33,000 To \$50,000 per year un-graded; un-classified	Two Years	Water and Wastewater Divisions, Saipan
10-037	Senior Engineer	2	\$75,000 To \$90,000 per year un-graded; un-classified	Two Years	Water and Wastewater Divisions, Saipan

Opening Date: Thursday, July 20, 2010


Closing Date: August 19, 2010

JVA NO.	Position Title	Positions (s)	*Salary	Contract	Location
10-038	Internal Auditor	1	\$30,000 To \$40,000 per year un-graded; un-classified	Two Years	Chief Financial Officer Divisions, Saipan

*For more information about the position (s) being advertised; requirements, equivalency policy, and salary;
please contact or stop by the human resource office on the third floor of the Joeten Dandan Building.


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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT



Opening Date: Thursday, July 15, 2010

Closing Date: August 13, 2010

JVA NO.	Position Title	Positions (s)	*Salary	Contract	Location
10-002-1	Drinking Water and Wastewater Division Manager (DM)	1	\$60,000 to \$75,000 per year; un-graded, un-classified	Two years	Water and Wastewater Divisions, Saipan
10-005-2	Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations Supervisor Saipan) (“OS”)	1	\$55,000 to \$ 65,000 per year; un-graded, un-classified	Two years	Wastewater Division, Saipan
10-029	Wastewater Treatment Level 2 Certified	2	\$35,000 To \$42,500 per year un-graded; un-classified	Two Years	Wastewater Division, Saipan
10-030	Wastewater Collection Level 2 Certified	2	\$35,000 To \$42,500 per year un-graded; un-classified	Two Years	Wastewater Division, Saipan
10-031	Water Treatment Level 1 Certified	1	\$30,000 To \$40,000 per year un-graded; un-classified	Two Years	Water Section, Rota
10-032	Water Distribution Level 2 Certified	1	\$35,000 To \$42,500 per year un-graded; un-classified	Two Years	Water Section, Rota

*For more information about the position (s) being advertised; requirements, equivalency policy, and salary;
please contact or stop by the human resource office on the third floor of the Joeten Dandan Building.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Availability for the Mariana Islands Range Complex Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS)

Record of Decision

After carefully weighing the operational and environmental consequences of the Proposed Action, the Department of Defense Representative Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia and Republic of Palau (DoD REP), announces his decision to support and conduct current, emerging and future military training and research, development, test and evaluation (RDT&E) activities in the Mariana Islands Range Complex (MIRC) while enhancing training resources through investment. Training and RDT&E activities are conducted by the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Marine Corps, the U.S. Air Force, Guam National Guard, the U.S. Coast Guard and other users based and deployed in the Western Pacific.

The Navy considered applicable Executive Orders, including an analysis of the environmental effects of its actions outside of the U.S. or its territories under the provisions of Executive Order 12114 (*Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions*) and the requirements of Executive Order 12898 (*Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority and Low Income Populations*). The DoD REP has decided to implement the preferred alternative (Alternative 1), which is a proposal designed to meet the military services' current and foreseeable training requirements. Implementation of the preferred alternative could begin immediately.

The Record of Decision (ROD) has been distributed to individuals who requested a copy of the Final EIS/OEIS and agencies and organizations that received a copy of the Final EIS/OEIS. The full text of the ROD is available for public download at www.MarianasRangeComplexEIS.com. Single copies of the ROD will be made available upon request by writing Mariana Islands Range Complex EIS/OEIS; Project Manager, Code EV21; Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pacific; 258 Makalapa Drive, Suite 100; Pearl Harbor, HI 96869-3134 or by e-mail at marianas.tap.eis@navy.mil.



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

P.O. Box 5153 CHRB, SAIPAN, MP 96950-5153 • TEL. NOS.: (670) 234-6925 /6958/8036 • Fax no.: (670) 234-1013

EXAMINATION ANNOUNCEMENT NO.:10-052
OPENING DATE: 07/23/2010
CLOSING DATE: CONTINUOUS

REANNOUNCEMENT

This announcement is for the purpose of developing an Open, Competitive, and Promotional Eligible list. It is the policy of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Public Auditor that the personnel system shall be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, handicap or place of origin.

POSITION AND SALARY: Investigator (2 Positions)**PL-UNGRADED
\$33,500 to \$42,000 P/A**

The salary given will be determined by the qualifications of the appointee and limited to the amount currently appropriated for the position.

LOCATION: Office of the Public Auditor (OPA), Saipan**DUTIES and RESPONSIBILITIES:**

To investigate cases relating to fraud, waste and abuse and theft in the collection and expenditure of public funds; the procurement of goods and services by the Commonwealth; and matters relating to compliance with the Government Ethics Code; to develop facts and evidence supporting criminal and civil actions; to provide investigative assistance and support to other law enforcement agencies; to investigate cases of government agencies, activities, operations, contract, and grants of the CNMI (including local and federally-funded programs), in accordance with legislative requirements and federal agency requirements; to perform other related duties as assigned by the Public Auditor.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university preferred (minimum graduation from a high school or equivalency degree); and Graduate of a Federal, State, or local law enforcement academy, and be certified on either a Federal or a State level as a law enforcement officer; and at least two years of investigative experience as a serving law enforcement officer with either a Federal, State or local law enforcement agency. Background checks will be performed. Applicant must have no criminal convictions.

CONDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

This position is **"EXEMPT"** under 4 CMC §9223 from the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) and is not eligible for overtime or compensatory time.

Also, pursuant to 1 CMC §2305, no OPA employee may actively engage in any other business, profession, or governmental office.

CONTACT PERSON: For more information, contact Mr. Juan Santos, OPA Chief Investigator or Joe Przyuski, OPA Legal Counsel at telephone number (670) 322-3937/3938/3939, fax number (670) 322-7812, or via email at mail@opacnmi.com.

NOTE TO APPLICANT:

Applicants must be citizens of the United States and have a valid United States passport prior to being hired. Also, applicants must be willing to travel as part of their duties to countries such as the Philippines, Japan, Hong Kong, etc.

Education and training claimed under item 19 (A) through (F) of the Application for Employment must be substantiated by an official school transcript, diploma, or certificate. FAILURE TO PROVIDE THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS WILL RESULT IN AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATION.

INTERESTED PERSONS SHOULD SEND THEIR CURRENT APPLICATION FORMS TO:

Office of Personnel Management	Office of Personnel Management	Office of Personnel Management
J.M. Building, Garapan	Songsong Village	San Jose Village
Saipan, MP 96950	Rota, MP 96951	Tinian, MP 96952

JOB LINE IS AVAILABLE 24 HOURS A DAY. PLEASE CALL 233-1606.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

3rd Floor, Joeten Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK, Dandan, Saipan, MP 96950

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

CUC-RFP-10-037

Implementation of work plans at Isley Field, CUC Power plant # 3, Saipan

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced environmental firms for the "Implementation of work plans at Isley Field / CUC Power Plant No. 3, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands". The work includes installation of equipment, data collection and development and implementation of clean up measures. Deliverables also include submission of periodic and appropriate sampling and assessment reports, proposed cleanup action /plan and performance report. A final report will also be required that shows the workplan implementation. All the work will be done as a part of the US EPA Stipulated order No. 2 response action and is subject to their approval. This project will be funded through the grant awarded by the US Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs.

The Scope-of-Work will be **e-mailed** upon request, to all interested Offerors, by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.), Monday thru Friday, except government observed holidays, **until August 13, 2010**.

One (1) original and Seven (7) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-RFP- 10-037 Implementation of Work plans at CUC Power Plant No. 3"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, Room No.4, 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan, P.O.Box 501220, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **August 24, 2010 at 10:00 AM, (CHST) local time**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Manuel B. Sablan, Procurement & Supply Manager at email msablan@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Late submissions will not be considered.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **August 5, 2010** at 9:30 AM (CHST) local time at the CUC conference room in 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan building, followed by a Site Visit (to Isley field Saipan).

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total proposal price must accompany the bid offer. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury or other surety acceptable to the CNMI Office of the Attorney General. A performance and payment bond of hundred (100%) percent each of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety for proposal security or other surety acceptable to the CNMI Office of the Attorney General. No advance payment will be authorized on the project or an Irrevocable Letter of Credit (100% aggregate contract cost/CUC Beneficiary) or a payment bond. All insurers questions, concerns and qualification be should handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Offerors must submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

The proposer is required to submit a copy of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page – <http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/cnmi/cnmi.htm>. The contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (CHST) local time on **August 17, 2010** to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Manager, Procurement and Supply Manager via email msablan@cucgov.net; Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email mika_muna@cucgov.net; Technical Manager for Oil, Mr. Will Sword via email sword.william@gmail.com and Mr. Venugopal Prabhakara, Managing Engineer, Power generation, via email venu@cucgov.net. CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective Offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. Contract will be awarded to the most responsive proposers, as adjudged by the Source Selection Committee (SSC). CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ ANTONIO S. MUNA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

3rd Floor, Joeten Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK, Dandan, Saipan, MP 96950

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

CUC-RFP-10-040

GRANT MANAGEMENT/ADMINISTRATION and A&E TECHNICAL SERVICES

The Office of the Governor, Benigno R. Fitial and the Office of the Lt. Governor, Eloy S. Inos through the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation are soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified individuals or firms for Grant Management/Administration and Architect & Engineer Technical Services for the CUC Water-Wastewater Division in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists, in general, of contract administration of grants and locally funded projects, writing and developing grant, design development, bid package preparation, development of infrastructures of water and wastewater facilities.

The A&E firm services will be in contract for a period of one (1) year subject to renewal dependent on fund availability. The Contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws. Progress payments shall be to the Contractor. This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of Interior.

The CUC procurement regulations for Architect/Engineer (A/E) Procurement Regulations Title 50 Chapter 50 of the CNMI Administrative Code Paragraph 50-50-305 to publicly announce all requirements for Architect-Engineer services and negotiate contract on the basis of demonstrated competence and qualifications at a fair and reasonable price. After public announcement of requirement for A&E services, statements shall be reviewed by CUC, and after discussion, selection shall be made in order of preference of A&E firm to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required. The CUC shall attempt to negotiate a contract with the highest qualified architect-engineer firm at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to CUC. In the event that a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated, negotiations shall be terminated and negotiations shall be undertaken with the next highest qualified firm.

The scope-of-services and proposal requirements will be made available for pick-up, on **July 19, 2010** at the CUC Water-Wastewater Division, Room No.18, 3rd Floor, Room 18, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on Government observed holidays.

One (1) original and six (6) copies along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-RFP-10-040, Grant Management/Administration and A&E Technical Services"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than Tuesday, **August 17, 2010 at 10:00 AM, (CHST) local time**. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and wave any imperfection in the bid proposal in the interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

All inquires must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (CHST), local time on, **August 11, 2010** to Manuel B. Sablan, Jr., Procurement & Supply Manager via email at msablan@cucgov.net and Captain Robert Lorenz, Water-Wastewater Engineer at email robert_lorenz@cucgov.net.

/s/ ABE UTU MALAE
Assistant Executive Director for Operation

/s/ ANTONIO S. MUNA
Executive Director

Yankees power ahead early, beat Angels



NEW YORK (AP)—Mark Teixeira and Robinson Cano supplied the early runs as the New York Yankees beat the Los Angeles Angels 10-6 in the American League on Wednesday.

Teixeira doubled twice and drove in three runs, and Cano hit a two-run shot as New York ended a seven-game winning streak by Angels pitcher Joel Pineiro.

Pineiro (10-7) was 7-0 with a 2.51 ERA in his previous eight starts, but 10 of his first 21 batters got hits as the Yankees built a 6-0 lead.

Tigers 4, Rangers 1

In Detroit, Max Scherzer threw seven scoreless innings to guide Detroit to a win over Texas that snapped a seven-game losing skid.

Scherzer (7-7) threw a career-high 123 pitches.

Gerald Laird hit a two-run homer for the Tigers.

Athletics 6, Red Sox 4

In Oakland, Matt Watson hit his first career homer and Jack Cust added a two-run shot that helped Oakland defeat Boston and win its third straight series.

Gio Gonzalez (9-6) pitched six innings and Rajai Davis hit a two-run single for the A's, who have won seven of eight to move above .500 for the first time since June 11.

Twins 6, Indians 0

In Minneapolis, Francisco Liriano worked out of trouble while throwing seven effective innings as Minnesota salvaged the final game of a frustrating series, snapping Cleveland's six-game winning streak.

Liriano (8-7) allowed 10 baserunners but stayed poised, and benefited from three double plays. He struck out eight, including Carlos Santana with runners at the corners to finish the third inning.

Royals 5, Blue Jays 2

In Kansas City, Zack Greinke won for the fifth time in six decisions as Kansas City downed Toronto.

Greinke (6-9), the reigning AL Cy Young Award winner, allowed two runs in eight innings, striking out nine without a walk. He improved to 5-1 with a 2.89 ERA in his past seven starts, a stretch that includes 47 strikeouts and just eight walks.

Greinke yielded three singles for a run in the seventh, but pitched out of further trouble by getting Edwin Encarnacion to ground into an inning-ending double play.

Mariners 2, White Sox 1, 11 innings

In Seattle, Franklin Gutierrez's two-run single off Chicago closer Bobby Jenks in the bottom of the 11th inning gave Seattle victory.

Jenks' second last-inning meltdown in four days trimmed Chicago's lead over Minnesota and Detroit to 2 1/2 games in the AL Central.

The game was scoreless until the White Sox went ahead in the top of the 11th.

Rays 5, Orioles 4

In Baltimore, Evan Longoria homered, drove in two runs and scored twice as Tampa Bay recovered from blowing a four-run lead and edged Baltimore.

The Rays improved their major league-leading road record to 31-17.

New York Yankees Mark Teixeira, upper left, hits a three-run home run as Los Angeles Dodgers starting pitcher Hiroki Kuroda, below, pitches and catcher Russell Martin catches during the first inning of their baseball game, Saturday, June 26, 2010, in Los Angeles.

AP



Tampa Bay is 5-1 at Camden Yards.

Rays starter James Shields (8-9) got the win, despite allowing four runs in 6 1-3 innings. Rafael Soriano worked the ninth for his 24th save in 26 tries.

Padres 6, Braves 4

In Atlanta, Braves reliever Billy Wagner blew a two-run lead in the ninth inning, before Nick Hundley's two-run double in the 12th lifted San Diego to victory.

Chris Denorfia led off the 12th with a single off Kris Medlen (6-2), Atlanta's seventh pitcher. Denorfia stole second base as Tony Gwynn Jr. struck out for the second out. An intentional walk to Oscar Salazar put runners on first and second for Hundley, who pinch hit for Tim Stauffer (3-1).

Dodgers 2, Giants 0

In Los Angeles, Chad Billingsley pitched

a shutout of San Francisco to give Los Angeles its first win in seven games.

Billingsley (8-5) threw 125 pitches to earn his second career shutout and third complete game.

Casey Blake homered in the second inning to end the Dodgers season-worst losing skid.

Cardinals 5, Phillies 1

In St. Louis, rookie Jaime Garcia stymied Philadelphia for seven innings as St. Louis made it eight straight wins.

Garcia (9-4) lowered his ERA to 2.21, rebounding from two iffy starts in which he gave up 17 hits in 5 2-3 innings, although he gave up only four earned runs.

Matt Holliday's homer leading off the bottom of the seventh was the go-ahead hit for the NL Central leaders, whose streak is the franchise's best

since winning eight straight in 2004.

Marlins 5, Rockies 2

In Miami, Gaby Sanchez hit a three-run homer to lift Florida over Colorado.

Marlins starter Ricky Nolasco (10-7) pitched eight innings, allowing four hits while striking out eight. He has 10 wins each of the past three seasons.

Rockies starter Jason Hammel (7-5) fell to 0-3 against the Marlins in his career as he allowed five runs in seven innings.

Nationals 8, Reds 5

In Cincinnati, Stephen Strasburg tamed the NL's top offense as Washington downed Cincinnati.

A day after he turned 22, Strasburg (5-2) pitched beyond his years again, passing one of his toughest tests, while getting some belated run support.

Ralph Houk dies at 90; managed 2 champions

BOSTON (AP)—Ralph Houk, who guided the powerhouse New York Yankees of the early 1960s to two World Series championships during his 20 years as a big league manager, died Wednesday. He was 90.

Houk also skippered the Detroit Tigers and the Boston Red Sox in a managerial career that spanned three decades.

Red Sox spokesman Dick Bresciani said Houk's grandson, Scott Slaboden, told the team Houk died at his home in Winter Haven, Fla. Slaboden, who lives in the Boston area, wrote in an e-mail to the team that Houk "died peacefully of natural causes after having a brief illness."

Before reaching the big leagues with the Yankees in 1947, Houk served in the Army in World War II and rose to the rank of major—a moniker that stuck even when he returned to baseball.

Houk spent parts of eight seasons as a backup catcher for New York, appearing in just 91 games. Former Yankees shortstop Tony Kubek, who played for Houk in the minors and majors with New York, said Houk learned a lot about handling a pitching staff from working with Hall of Famer catchers Yogi Berra and Bill Dickey in the bullpen.

"He had the Yankees' spirit, the Yankees' winning attitude," Kubek

told The Associated Press in a phone interview. "He had all the qualities that make a special manager."

Houk managed 3,157 games and won 1,619 with a winning percentage of .514. He followed Casey Stengel as Yankees manager in 1961 and was George Steinbrenner's first manager for New York in 1973. He resigned after one year working for the Boss and moved on to Detroit.

Houk managed the Tigers from 1974-78. His final stint in the dugout came with Boston from 1981-84.

"People forget that before he was a manager, he was a war hero and he was a catcher for a lot of years," Tigers radio analyst Jim Price said. "He was a great guy, I knew him very well, and everyone that played for him loved him."

It's been a tough couple of weeks for the Yankees organization, which has lost three notable figures from its storied history in the last 10 days. Longtime public address announcer Bob Sheppard died on July 11 and iconic owner Steinbrenner passed away two days later.

Houk's best seasons as a manager were his first three in New York. He

took over the Yankees in 1961 and behind Mickey Mantle and Roger Maris the team won 109 games and a World Series championship.

The Yankees repeated as champions in 1962 and won the AL pennant in 1963, but were swept by the Los Angeles Dodgers in the World Series.

Houk managed a handful of Hall of Famers in New York, but Kubek said he was an integral part of the team's success.

"Sometimes when you have good players, you can mess it up and he didn't do that," he said. "He didn't overmanage. He was probably, more than a strategist, a handler of men."

Houk moved into the front office after the series loss to the Dodgers, serving as Yankees general manager in 1964 and '65. He returned to managing the Yankees in 1966 and held the job until 1973, but he only had four more winning seasons and never finished better than second place.

The Lawrence, Kan., native had only one winning season with the Tigers, his last in 1978.

"Ralph was a great baseball man who handled his players well and they played hard for him," Tigers

Strasburg struck out seven and gave up three runs in 5 1-3 innings, outdueling Bronson Arroyo (10-5), who had allowed only three runs in his past three starts, winning them all.

Diamondbacks 4, Mets 3, 14 innings

In Phoenix, a pinch-hit RBI single in the 14th inning by Chris Snyder gave the Arizona a three-game sweep of fading New York.

Snyder, the last position player available for Arizona, hit a pitch from Fernando Nieve (2-4) over the head of the left fielder to bring home Justin Upton, who had led off the inning with a double.

The Mets fell to 1-6 on their 10-game Western trip and remained 6 1/2 games behind first-place Atlanta in the NL East. They finish the trip with three games against the Dodgers in Los Angeles starting Friday.

Astros 4, Cubs 3, 12 innings

In Chicago, pinch-hitter Jason Michaels delivered a two-out, two-run double in the top of the 12th inning to give Houston victory over Chicago.

Jeff Keppinger and Chris Johnson started the 12th with consecutive singles. After Keppinger was forced out at third when Jason Castro bunted back to Bob Howry (1-3), James Russell relieved and Michael Bourn's grounder moved the runners to second and third.

Pirates 15, Brewers 3

In Pittsburgh, Pedro Alvarez hit two home runs for the second consecutive game for Pittsburgh, which routed Milwaukee.

The Pirates' rookie hit a two-run homer to center in the fifth and a solo shot off the right-field pole in the eighth.

Randy Wolf (7-9) allowed a career-worst 12 runs in 5 2-3 innings. It was the third time in four games that a Brewers starter had given up more than 10 runs.

Hall of Famer Al Kaline said in a statement released by the team. "He was well respected and a fun guy to be around. I enjoyed playing for him during my last year."

Longtime Braves manager Bobby Cox played for Houk with the Yankees in 1968-69.

"Great guy. Great guy," Cox said Wednesday night after Atlanta lost to San Diego in 12 innings. "Sorry to hear that. I love Ralph. He was just outstanding."

Houk came out of retirement at the age of 61 to become Red Sox manager. He had three winning seasons before retiring for good in 1984, leaving behind the core of a team that would reach the World Series in 1986.

"He was a great players' manager, a real good guy and a tough son of a gun," Dodgers manager Joe Torre said. "I got to know him after his managing days, and he's a great credit to the Yankees, Red Sox and Tigers organizations."

But he'll most be remembered as a Yankee.

"He was just a wonderful guy, loyal to his players," Kubek said. "The Major was just a great person."

Houk is survived by his daughter, Donna Houk Slaboden, his son Robert Houk and four grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.



Houk

Jefferson re-signs with San Antonio



SAN ANTONIO (AP)—Richard Jefferson was a way overpriced \$14 million swingman in San Antonio last season.

His new deal will likely give the Spurs more for their money.

The Spurs re-signed Jefferson to a multiyear deal Wednesday, nearly a month after the nine-year veteran opted out of a guaranteed \$15.2 million next season. Terms of his new deal weren't disclosed, but Jefferson had been willing to give up the final year of his bloated deal for longer-term security.

"To him, being able to secure his future under the current set of rules that we're living under, eliminates some uncertainty," Spurs general manager R.C. Buford said.

Jefferson did not meet with reporters. His agent, Todd Eley, did not immediately return messages Wednesday.

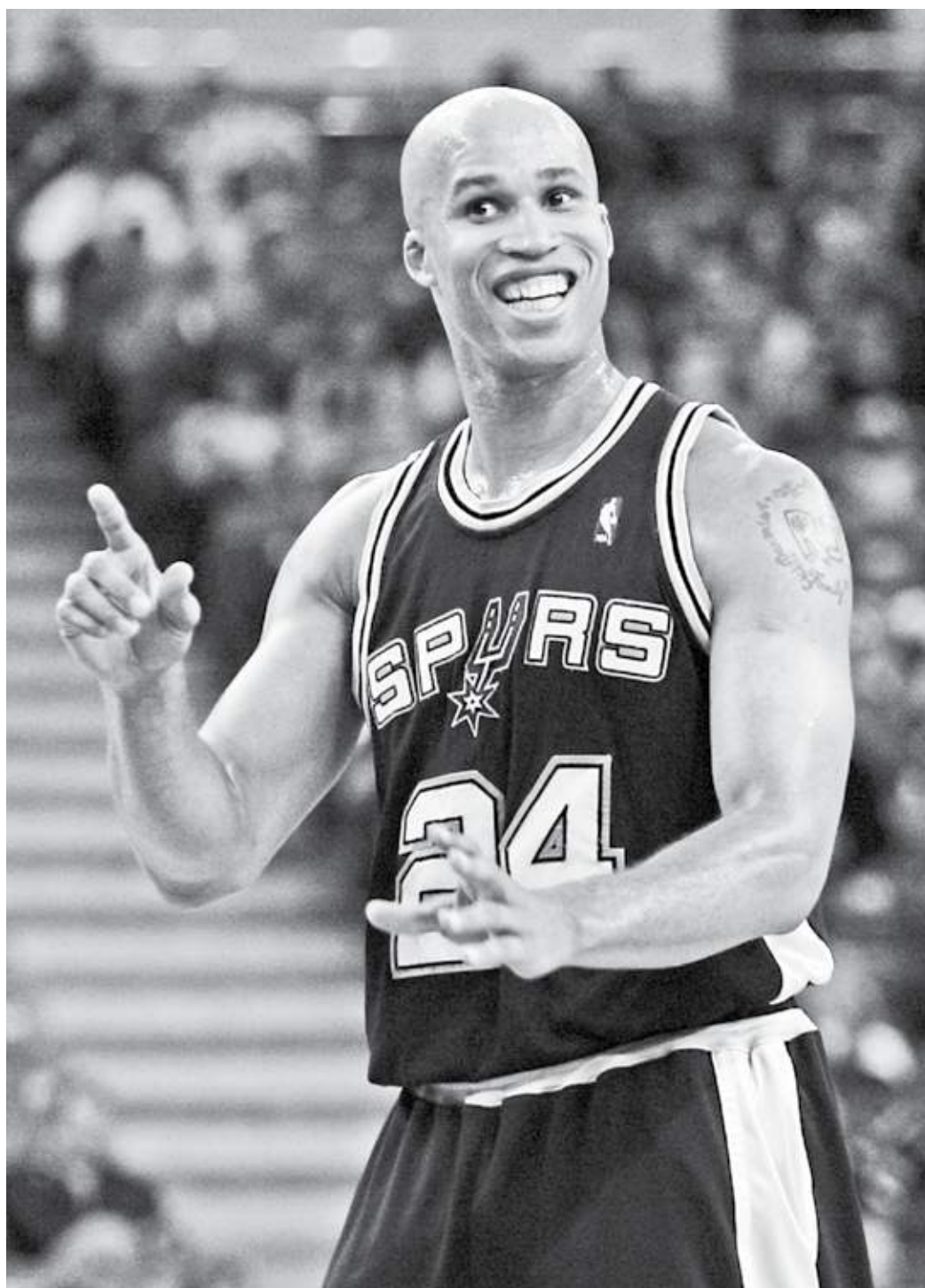
Although his new salary wasn't immediately known, the Spurs will be paying less for the 30-year-old Jefferson, who was San Antonio's fifth-leading scorer last season while earning a salary second only to Tim Duncan.

Jefferson averaged 12.3 points last season—his lowest since his rookie year—while struggling to adapt to a new system. A career starter, Jefferson came off the bench at one point while the Spurs tried figuring out how to best use their prized new addition.

But the Spurs stuck by him, even after the season ended without Jefferson making the big splash that many expected.

"He's played well with his last contract. He played more efficiently than his numbers might have shown," Buford said. "I think the option of coming into a new team with three established players, some playing injured during the season, was a difficult time for everybody."

Jefferson was also no doubt motivated to sign a new deal before the NBA's collective bargaining agreement expires next summer, which many expect could result in a lockout.



In this April 6, 2010, file photo, San Antonio Spurs forward Richard Jefferson smiles after scoring in the first quarter of an NBA basketball game against the Sacramento Kings in Sacramento, Calif.

Just before the NBA's blockbuster free agency period began July 1, Jefferson walked away from the final year of a 6-year, \$78 million deal he signed with New Jersey in 2005. Back then, Jefferson was among the NBA's best young scorers and was coming off averaging 22.2 points in his fourth year in the league.

The Nets shipped their leading scorer to Milwaukee in 2008. Jefferson then played just

one year before the Bucks, eager to gut their roster and rebuild, traded Jefferson to the Spurs in a lopsided swap for three aging bench players.

By getting Jefferson, the Spurs were using the money they might have otherwise spent this summer. Coach Gregg Popovich said then that with the uncertainty of free agency, they couldn't pass up getting a player of Jefferson's caliber.

Jefferson's return means the

Spurs will largely remain the same team that looked like a dangerous sleeper in last year's playoffs before being swept by Phoenix in the West semifinals.

Their biggest addition was Brazilian center Tiago Splitter, San Antonio's heralded 2007 draft pick who was MVP of the Spanish League last season. The Spurs also picked up Oklahoma State swingman James Anderson in the draft last month.

Ridnour will compete for starting PG in MN

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Luke Ridnour didn't sign with the Minnesota Timberwolves just to be a mentor to the younger players.

Team president David Kahn brought the 29-year-old Ridnour in to challenge Jonny Flynn for the starting point guard spot.

"Luke is going to come in here with every intent of trying to win the starting point guard position," Kahn said Wednesday when Ridnour signed a four-year, \$16 million contract. "That was very important to him and that's the way we like it, too."

Kahn liked Ridnour for a number of reasons, not the least of which being that he is entering his eighth season in the league and will provide veteran leadership to a team that doesn't have another player over 25 on its roster. But Ridnour also averaged 10.4 points and four assists to help the Milwaukee Bucks reach the playoffs last year, shooting a career-high 38 percent from 3-point range.

"I think his style of play fits perfectly with who we aim to be," Kahn said.

Flynn had an up-and-down rookie season with the Timberwolves and had trouble as a pick-and-roll, ball-dominant point guard fitting into an offensive system predicated on ball movement. Kahn told Flynn in his season-ending interview that he "needed to be prepared to defend his starting position" heading into training camp.

"We like competition both in practices and within the roster," Kahn said. "I think it makes the players better for them to push each other for playing time and the things that go with it."

Ridnour said he looks forward to competing with Flynn,

but also to helping the young player learn the nuances of the game, much like he did with rookie Brandon Jennings with the Bucks last year.

"Here it's kind of the same situation," Ridnour said. "You've got guys that are a little bit younger. For me, if they can get better, the team's going to win."

There are a lot of younger guys on this team, especially at point guard. In addition to Flynn and Ridnour, the Timberwolves also have Ramon Sessions on the roster and Ricky Rubio playing in Spain. The Wolves hope the 19-year-old Rubio will come overseas before next season.

"It's not my intent in any way, shape or form to have three healthy point guards on the roster this year," Kahn said. "That wouldn't be fair to any of them. I recognize that we have to alleviate that situation, provided we have three healthy point guards."

There's the rub.

Flynn aggravated a left hip injury in workouts before summer league play, Kahn said. He said the Timberwolves will wait to see the extent of Flynn's injury before deciding to make a trade.

Sessions would appear to be the odd man out. The Cleveland Cavaliers could be a suitor as they look to reshape the roster after LeBron James' departure.

Sessions played with Cavaliers guard Mo Williams in Cleveland and the two remain close.

"I don't think it's healthy to have three guys who are healthy all wanting to play," Kahn said. "That can lead to some tension. I think we'll look to alleviate it as soon as we have more information on everybody's condition."

Bucks, Kings complete Brockman-Jackson trade

MILWAUKEE (AP)—The Milwaukee Bucks acquired a fan favorite when they completed a trade Wednesday for Sacramento Kings forward Jon Brockman.

Bucks general manager John Hammond said he thinks Bucks fans will love Brockman, too.

"Any fan base anywhere will appreciate a player who plays with the type of energy he does," Hammond told The Associated Press.

The Bucks completed a sign-and-trade deal for Brockman in exchange for forward Darnell Jackson and a 2011 second-round pick.

The 23-year-old Brockman averaged 2.8 points and 4.1 rebounds in limited minutes as a rookie with the Kings. He appeared in 52 games, including four starts, after being picked in the second round of last year's draft.

"We're excited about adding a player with his energy, his toughness and a player we think we can put on the floor and help us win games," Hammond said.

Jackson began last year with Cleveland and appeared in 28 games before moving to Milwaukee when the Cavs waived him to bring back Zydrunas Il-

gauskas. Jackson, a second-year forward, played in one game with the Bucks.

"We're looking forward to greeting Darnell and moving forward with the rest of the roster over the course of the summer," Kings' president of basketball operations Geoff Petrie said.

Brockman participated in a live chat with The Seattle Times earlier Wednesday and said it was bittersweet leaving the Kings. He said he had just signed a new contract at the newspaper's office before participating in the chat. That deal is worth about \$3 million over

the next three years.

"It really did feel like home. It was a great place to live and play, but I'm very excited about my new opportunity in Milwaukee," Brockman wrote. "I truly am going to miss the support I received in Sacramento and am touched by all the messages, poems, calls I've gotten from people telling me I will be missed."

Brockman was known as The Brockness Monster in Sacramento and has a Twitter audience of more than 320,000 followers on his verified account. Brockman had been told not to communicate on Twitter as the

deal was being negotiated, but he wrote Wednesday that he was excited about his move.

"You have no idea how pumped I am to be in Milwaukee!" he wrote. "Great people, great city, great team!"

On the floor, the Bucks believe the rugged 6-foot-7 power forward also will be able to guard centers.

Milwaukee may not be done with all of its moves, either.

The Bucks signed Keyon Dooling to a two-year contract on Monday to be the backup point guard and Hammond said work remains to finish signing their draft picks.

Outside of Miami, Milwaukee has been one of the busiest

teams this offseason, needing to fill eight roster spots following last season's 46-36 run that ended with the franchise's first playoff berth in four years.

Milwaukee traded Dan Gadzuric and Charlie Bell for small forward Corey Maggette in the days leading up to the draft, then selected forward Larry Sanders, guard Darrington Hobson and forward Tiny Gallon.

The Bucks also struck two major deals in free agency, bringing back shooting guard John Salmons and signing power forward Drew Gooden to five-year contracts to add them to a core that includes center Andrew Bogut and point guard Brandon Jennings.



PAU, France (AP)—Andy Schleck knows he has one opportunity to win the Tour de France—on the climb up the Col du Tourmalet in the Pyrenees on Thursday.

He believes the fierce ascent at the end of the 17th stage is the only place he can wrest the yellow jersey from two-time champion Alberto Contador and put at least a minute between him and his Spanish rival going into the final weekend of the three-week race.

“I will have to be in yellow. There’s only one chance to take it and that’s tomorrow,” Schleck said Wednesday. “With a minute, I would be happy. But if it’s more, that’s better.”

The Luxembourg rider is eight seconds behind the defending champion in the overall standings after Contador took the lead Monday.

If the Spaniard has the overall lead by the end of Thursday’s stage, most observers agree he will be ahead when the race finishes Sunday in Paris. The leading riders are unlikely to be able to make up time on each other in Friday’s flat stage, and Saturday’s stage is a time trial, a discipline in which Contador excels.

“There is only one way, and that is the climb of the Tourmalet,” Schleck said.

It’s an outcome that likely has race organizers smiling.

In celebration of the centenary of the Tour’s first sortie into the Pyrenees, they arranged this year for the stage including the Col du Tourmalet to finish at the very top of the legendary climb. In the past, for logistical reasons, the riders have topped



Schleck sees hopes of victory on Col du Tourmalet

Andy Schleck of Luxembourg, wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey, is followed by Alberto Contador of Spain, center, and his Astana teammates as they climbs towards Port de Bales pass during the 15th stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 187.5 kilometers (116.5 miles) with start in Pamiers and finish in Bagnères-de-Luchon, Pyrenees region, France, Monday, July 19, 2010.

the Tourmalet and then raced two miles downhill to the finish.

Contador knows the attack will come and isn’t making assumptions about winning his third Tour just yet.

He said Thursday’s stage would be “very, very hard.”

“I think we can have very big gaps in that stage, probably more than in the time trial,” he said.

The 17th stage is a 108.1-mile ride from Pau to the Tourmalet. The riders have already tackled the peak once, but this time they will do it in the opposite direction—and finish on top.

Before they even get to the Tourmalet, the riders will tackle two very difficult climbs—the Col du Soulor and the Col de Marie-Blanque, the final two miles of which are at a gradient of

more than 11 percent.

The Tourmalet doesn’t reach that pitch, but it’s twice as long at 11.6 miles.

“It is definitely the highlight of this year’s Tour,” Schleck said. “I always said the guy who has the yellow tomorrow will have the yellow in Paris, and I still believe that.”

Contador and Schleck are not the only riders with a chance of overall glory.



IRVING, Texas (AP)—For the Dallas Cowboys, the road home could lead to the next Super Bowl.

Since the end of last season, and even before that, Jerry Jones has constantly reminded his Cowboys that Super Bowl XLV will be played at their own stadium in February.

“Our owner lets us know the game is at Cowboys Stadium and he would love his team to play in it,” Pro Bowl linebacker DeMarcus Ware said. “We are doing everything we can get to get there.”

But long before the possibility of being the first host team ever in a Super Bowl, or even playing a 2010 regular season game, the defending NFC East champion Cowboys have quite a summer trip.

Training camp begins Saturday at the Alamodome in San Antonio. That begins a five-week stretch in which the Cowboys will travel more than 6,500 miles, practice in three different cities and play preseason games in four stadiums.

“We’re America’s team, everybody wants to see us,” receiver Roy Williams said.

Dallas will be the first full squad to begin camp, but Cleveland rookies report Friday. Rookies for New England and San Diego report Sunday, and every NFL team will be in camp by Aug. 1.

For the third time in four years, 17 of the 32 teams will conduct training camp at home. Just nine years ago, only five of 31 teams stayed home for preseason workouts.

Super Bowl champion New Orleans opens camp at home July 29. But before the Saints won the title last year, the previous three Super Bowl winners—Pittsburgh, Indianapolis and the New York Giants—had all held camp away from home.

For the Cowboys, the climate-controlled Alamodome will be their base for two weeks before going to Canton, Ohio, to play in the Pro Football Hall of Fame Game. A few days at home and

Cowboys camp begins hopeful title road home

a preseason game at Cowboys Stadium follows that.

Then comes two weeks in Oxnard, Calif., a stretch that includes a game at San Diego. They break their West Coast camp and head to Houston for a game before finally getting to settle in at their Valley Ranch facility to prepare for the home preseason finale and the start of the regular season.

“I’ve had some pretty strange years, but not moving like that,” said 13-year veteran Keith Brooking, going into his second season with Dallas. “I played in the Tokyo Bowl, 16-hour flight or whatever it was two weeks into training camp and still having four preseason games to play. But never two weeks at camp, then moving.”

“Nobody cares where we practice. People care about whether we win,” linebacker Bradie James said.

Jones raised the Lombardi Trophy three times in a four-year stretch in the mid 1990s. But the five-time champions have gone 14 seasons without winning a title and didn’t even win another playoff game until last January.

The 20-year owner could think of no better way to end the championship drought than by winning a Super Bowl at his \$1.2 billion stadium that opened last season.

“They have the potential to get there,” said NFL career rushing leader Emmitt Smith, the three-time Super Bowl champion with the Cowboys who will be inducted into the Hall of

Fame next month. “Hopefully those guys have taken this offseason and said next year should be our time.”

With lofty expectations and their longest training camp in more than a decade ahead of them, it’s good for the Cowboys there are few issues and little drama. Just plenty of motivation.

“I really do feel that we’ve got top talent on the team, but this same talent, the majority of it, saw us fall short last year,” Jones said. “And that keeps anybody from getting too caught up in what this looks like. We’ve got a lot of work to do when we get to training camp.”

Here are some of the top storylines for the Cowboys so far:

■ Doug Free gets the first chance to replace left tackle Flozell Adams, the

Spain’s Samuel Sanchez is two minutes behind compatriot Contador, and Denis Menchov of Russia is 13 seconds further back. That sort of gap could be bridged in such a big mountain stage.

As well as those looking for overall victory, there are a number of other riders seeking a victory on the Tourmalet. They include seven-time champion Lance Armstrong, who just missed out on a stage win in Tuesday’s hard mountain stage.

“It’s not yet finished,” said Johan Bruyneel, manager of Armstrong’s RadioShack team. “There’s a single (mountain) stage left on Thursday. ... We’re going to try again.”

And though Armstrong’s career cycling career is coming to an end, his competitive spirit still burns.

A video posted on the Internet after his bid to win Tuesday’s 16th stage showed the American bumping into a fan and shouting at a photographer as he struggled to get back to the team bus.

Other honors are also still up for grabs.

Frenchman Anthony Charteau is hoping to wrap up the title of King of the Mountains, given to the best climber of the Tour, but will face strong competition from his nearest rival for the polka-dot jersey, French rider Christophe Moreau.

Moreau, in his final Tour at the age of 39, also sprinted for victory at the end of Tuesday’s stage but both he and the 38-year-old Armstrong were beaten by the younger legs of Pierrick Fedrigo of France.

expensive 35-year-old five-time Pro Bowler cut last spring. Free, going into his fourth season, started seven games at right tackle for injured Marc Colombo last year.

The Cowboys also acquired tackle Alex Barron, sending Bobby Carpenter to St. Louis in a trade of underachieving former first-round picks.

■ After receiver Miles Austin went from relative unknown to Pro Bowl player and Dez Bryant was drafted in the first round, Patrick Crayton asked for a trade and skipped most voluntary offseason workouts. But Crayton, who could still end up playing for somebody this season, showed up for the final week of workouts and the minicamp, working like he always had.

■ Safety Ken Hamlin, a 2007 Pro Bowler who like Adams had a contract through 2013, was also cut. Alan Ball, primarily a cornerback his first two seasons, is the likely replacement opposite Gerald Sensabaugh.

■ Hamlin’s departure is the only significant change for coach Wade Phillips’ 3-4 defense, which allowed the fewest points in the NFC last season and ended the regular season with consecutive shutouts for the first time in the team’s 50-year history.

With Jason Garrett calling plays for Tony Romo and a record-setting offense, and Phillips settling into the dual role as the NFL’s only head coach-defensive coordinator, Jones is excited about the continuity of the coaching staff. He believes that is good for Phillips, who is 33-15 after three seasons in Dallas and finally has a playoff victory as a head coach.

“You can just sense it when you’re talking to him, he’s so comfortable in himself around this team,” Jones said. “I’m not talking about he’s laid back or taking things too easy. He’s just gotten very comfortable, exudes to me when I’m with him, the feel, that feeling he feels about his team.”



NFL BRIEFS

Ex-Raider Russell pleads not guilty in Ala. case

MOBILE, Ala. (AP)—Former Oakland Raiders quarterback JaMarcus Russell pleaded not guilty to a charge of illegal drug possession Tuesday in Alabama. Russell, 24, is a former LSU star who was released by Oakland after being the No. 1 draft choice in 2007. He entered the plea in court in Mobile. He is charged with felony possession of a controlled substance, codeine syrup. Authorities have said that he did not have a prescription for the drug and that he was arrested July 5 at his home as part of an undercover investigation. His attorney, Donald Briskman, said in a phone interview that there were about nine or 10 people in the house and that he believes once all the evidence is known, Russell will be exonerated. Russell, a prep star in Mobile, had no comment after his court appearance. He has been free on \$2,500 bond. Briskman said he asked for

an early hearing in order for Russell to get the case behind him and renew his effort to play professional football. A hearing in his case is set for Aug. 11 to determine if there is enough evidence to send the case to a grand jury. One of the NFL’s biggest No. 1 draft busts, Russell completed just 52.1 percent of his passes in his career, with 18 touchdowns, 23 interceptions and 15 lost fumbles. He won only seven of 25 starts.

Cowboys sign 2 draft picks, Bryant among unsigned

IRVING, Texas (AP)—The Dallas Cowboys have signed offensive tackle Sam Young and defensive end Sean Lissemore to four-year contracts. Terms were not disclosed Tuesday. The Cowboys have not yet announced any deals with four other draft picks: receiver Dez Bryant, linebacker Sean Lee, safety Akwasi Owusu-Ansah and cornerback Jamar Wall. Contract negotiations between the Cowboys and

Bryant, the receiver drafted 24th overall, began Monday. Dallas on Tuesday also released undrafted rookie free agent nose tackle Junior Aumavae and linebacker Donovan Woods, who signed to the team’s practice squad last November. Training camp starts Saturday in San Antonio.

Bears sign running back Unga

LAKE FOREST, Ill. (AP)—The Chicago Bears have signed running back Harvey Unga to a four-year contract. Terms were not disclosed Wednesday. Taken in the seventh round of the supplemental draft, Unga is BYU’s all-time leading rusher with 3,455 yards on 696 carries. He also caught 102 passes for 1,085 yards over four seasons and had 45 touchdowns - 36 rushing and nine receiving. The Bears have also cut defensive tackle Jimmy Saddler-McQueen and wide receiver Vic Hall. They were undrafted free agents.

Mayweather adviser denies Pacquiao deal



MANILA, Philip-pines—Team Mayweather has conjured a convenient, if not absurd, excuse on why Floyd Mayweather Jr. did not sign a fight contract with Filipino icon Manny Pacquiao.

No negotiations ever took place between the two camps according to Leonard Ellerbe, one of Floyd Mayweather Jr.’s closest advisers, in a statement issued Monday.

The statement has drawn the ire of Top Rank chief and Pacquiao promoter Bob Arum, who earlier claimed that virtually all points had been settled and only Floyd’s signature was needed to

seal the deal that could have earned both fighters at least \$40 million each.

“Al Haymon, [Golden Boy Promotions CEO] Richard Schaefer and myself speak to each other on a regular basis, and the truth is no negotiations have ever taken place, nor was there ever a deal agreed upon by Team Mayweather or Floyd Mayweather to fight Manny Pacquiao on Nov. 13. Either Ross Greenburg or Bob Arum is not telling the truth,” Ellerbe’s statement read.

Absurd, says Arum

“This is like absurd unreality,” Arum told ESPN.com’s Dan Rafael. “I’m not going to be party to this [expletive]. When

I heard about [Ellerbe’s statement], I thought it was a joke. Ross said he was talking to Haymon. He certainly wasn’t making it up. And Haymon was relaying conversations to Ross allegedly that Floyd had with him.”

Arum then cited a point to buttress his argument.

“If there was no negotiation, who imposed the gag order?” Arum told Rafael. “Why they’re doing this is absurd ... Schaefer said there was a gag order. Who could there be a gag order from if there were no negotiations? From the sky?”

During the events that transpired in May and June, Arum often refused to answer queries regarding the status of

negotiations, referring to a gag order allegedly imposed on both camps.

Golden Boy Promotions president Oscar De La Hoya had also acknowledged that negotiations were ongoing when he told a Spanish talk show that the “deal for the fight was very close.”

Meanwhile, Arum told Boxing Fanhouse.com Monday that he’s negotiating with the camps of World Boxing Association junior middleweight champion Miguel Cotto of Puerto Rico and former welterweight king Antonio Margarito of Mexico and will have a deal by the end of the week.

Cotto and Margarito are also under Arum’s stable. *(PDI)*

IT&E

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count, 60-all, off a Ernie Fernandez tough jumper against the outstretched arms of Brendon Talanía.

Neither team scored for more than one minute before Hoegaarden IT&E got the needed breaks in the home-stretch, recovering loose balls with Talanía picking up the last after Darwin Barbo slipped and lost the leather. Talanía then made a jumper for Hoegaarden IT&E’s 62-60 lead, 1:16 to go in the game.

Rabauliman missed an under-goal stab in the ensuing play and Ben Lisua also muffed a putback, but the Ol’Aces earned another chance to close the gap when Esdrelon’s entry pass to Barbo was intercepted. Elias Rangamar took the loose ball, went for a layup, missed, but grabbed the offensive board and this time drew a foul

from an IT&E defender on his way to the basket.

A Rangamar split cut the lead to one, 61-62, with 33.4 seconds to go in the game. Barbo made it a two-point game, 63-61, after he also went 1-for-2 from the foul line in the ensuing play.

After Barbo drilled his second free throw, the Ol’Aces were left with 15.5 seconds to complete a game-tying or match-winning play. They did neither, as Trevor Ogumoro’s 3-point attempt from the left key overshot the mark and Rabauliman’s turnaround jumper after an offensive rebound went too strong.

IT&E led by as much as 10 in the second period, 41-31, before Rabauliman led an Ol’Aces comeback and forced a 45-all deadlock at the end of the third period.

Back-to-back baskets from Rabauliman finally gave the Ol’Aces the upper hand, 49-47, with 7:10 left on the clock. Rabauliman then nailed his

third basket in a row, while Rangamar canned a triple and Fernandez drilled a baseline jumper to give the Ol’Aces their biggest lead, 56-50. However, Esdrelon anchored a 10-2 run to bring order back to IT&E and gave Brostrom a win in his last game on Saipan.

In the first match of the night, Bud Ice Rollers also played their last game in the regular season and finally won, following a 79-74 triumph over the Budweiser Saints.

The Rollers ended the regular season with a 1-7 record, while the Saints dropped to a 1-5 slate.

The Joe Diaz-coached Rollers won the tight match from the free throw line, making nine charities in the closing minutes of the game. Manny Matagolai made five of them and finished with a second-best team high of 16 points. Leo Galarse top-scored for the Rollers with 18 points, while Thomas Santos also finished in double figures with 15.

7 PAIRS

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day against Macoi Aguda and Ezekiel Macario, 17-21, 21-11, 21-11.

Other pairs that kept its unbeaten record after two days of action were Victor Regis and Mario Diola, Chris Hilario and Manatsu Omori, Anna Rose Omori and Michelle Caleon, Cheng Saturno and Lucelle Lampera, Choi Hannah and Lee So Young, and Merlie Tolentino and Elna Curate.

Regis and Diola improved to a 2-0 record, following a three-set win over Alvin Alvarez and Chris Hilario, 21-11, 14-21, 21-13, in the men’s doubles B. Diola and Regis debuted with a 20-22, 21-17, 21-12 victory over the pair of Noli Santos and Aries Cordero

last Saturday.

Also notching a 2-0 slate was the team of Hilario and Omori, who nailed their second win after a 21-10, 21-17 victory. Omoro and Hilario’s first victory in the men’s doubles C came last Saturday against Puy Macario and Kanata Omori.

Puy Macario and Kanata Omori broke into the win column in the men’s doubles C after downing Dotimas and Oh, 22-20, 20-22, 21-13.

Other winners in Day 2 in the men’s doubles division were Gary Bandoja and Diola (men’s AB), Hapi Gabriel and Manatsu Omori (men’s AB), Ferdie Arago and Jojo Savellano (men’s AB), and Guintu and Vales (men’s AB).

Bandoja and Diola prevailed against Aguda and Macario, 21-17, 20-22, 21-13; Gabriel and

Omori topped Robert Reyes and Victor Regis, 11-21, 21-16, 21-16; Arago and Savellano edged Jerry Hibi and Aries Cordero, 21-17, 18-21, 21-17; and Guintu and Vales defeated Edwin Montoya and Edwin Maratas, 21-15, 21-23, 21-18.

In the women’s division, Saturno and Lampera gained a 3-0 slate in the doubles B after slipping past Malou Malasarte and Ana Alvarez, 21-19, 15-21, 21-19. Lampera and Saturno’s first two wins were recorded during the opening day of the tournament last Saturday.

Two more pairs in the women’s divisions tallied perfect records after Sunday’s games. Hannah and Young, who debuted with a straight set victory against Loyda Ito and Kim Boh Ranah last Saturday, claimed their second win as many games after a 21-12, 21-

11 triumph over Cristy Villafior and Malou Mendoza in the women’s doubles BC. Curate and Tolentino, who crushed Annette Quiambao and Heo In Sook last Saturday, 21-12, 21-18, had another straight set win against Jennine Savellano and Ranah, 21-15, 21-15.

In other results in the women’s doubles B, Angie Ito and Shirley Kim beat Marlyn Montano and Jana Samonte, 21-16, 21-16; Loyda Ito and Labuson downed Villafior and Emily Vargas, 17-21, 21-12, 21-17; and Hannah and Gigi Zapanta edged Marlene Pereja and Lani Bartolome, 18-21, 21-12, 21-10.

Other results in the women’s doubles saw Peraja and Quimbao top Malasarte and Curate in their BC division, 22-20, 21-7 and Quiambao and Sook win over Savellano and Ranah, 21-12, 21-12.

The next SGA Ace tourney is scheduled for the month of August. For more information, contact SGA president Ben Aldan, SGA treasurer Jose I. Sablan, or SGA secretary Frances Sablan. *(Saipan Tribune)*

MIEKO

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triathlete and Miekko is ahead of her in terms of skills and experience. Palau has a full, but young team and I haven’t heard from Marshalls, so I think, Guam will still be our toughest competitor. Our chances of getting a gold medal are pretty good,” he added.

In Palau, the four Commonwealth triathletes are aiming for a better finish than the 2006 CNMI Triathlon Team, which won two silver medals and one bronze. Dirk Sharer finished second to gold medalist Keenan Tydingco of Guam during the 2006 Micronesian Games, while in the women’s division, Natasha Good placed third. The CNMI then took the silver medal in the team event with Butch Sublemente and Lewie Tenorio teaming up with Good. Guam won the gold in the team event.

The Marshall Islands’ Laurie Mann won the gold medal in the women’s race in 2006 with her time of two hours, 56 minutes, and 22.28 seconds. She is not listed in the Marshall Islands’ triathlon roster for Palau, giving Carey the early favorite tag in the race.

The 32-year-old Carey will be going to Palau after competing in several races in Guam and Japan. Last month, Carey helped her team win the Guam Extreme Adventure Race, completing the 24-hour event less than three hours before the cut-off time.

Early this month, Carey went to Japan for another adventure race and finished the 48-hour event in less than 32 hours. Then less than two weeks after the adventure race, she returned to Japan to compete in the 30th Annual Kaike Triathlon Championships. More than 100 quit the Kaike event, but Miekko and Joshua Manglona made it to the finish line after a grueling

3-kilometer swim, 145-km bike race, the 42.19-km run race

The race in Palau is a shorter one and even though Carey and company were frustrated with the change in the course, they are still confident about their chances in the Games. Next month’s competition will have a 750-meter swim, 20-km bike, and 5-km run legs instead of the Olympic distance triathlon race, which is composed of 1.5-kilometer swim, 40-km bike, and 10-km run legs.

Mixed of young and old

The short run portion of the race favors Mancao, who has been competing in middle distance races before switching to triathlon a few years ago.

He has been training in Guam for the Micro Games since earning a slot on the team in March. The 19-year-old Mancao qualified after becoming the third male Saipan finisher in the Tagaman Triathlon. His mentor in the bike race is the Guam-based Jazy Garcia.

Daly was the top male finisher for Saipan in the Tagaman, thus earning the first spot on the team. After missing a couple of races, two years ago, the 49-year-old triathlete has recovered well, beating much younger triathletes in various races this year.

Tenorio, who thanked Godfather’s and Pacific Islands Club for supporting his Palau trip, is the lone holdover from the 2006 team. He finished sixth in the men’s race, completing the race ahead of four other triathletes. Tenorio, who is in his early 40s, considers the swim part of the triathlon as his Waterloo, but will surely make up for it in the bike and run legs of the race.

Meanwhile, the CNMI Triathlon Team members thanked Brabu, Hertz Rent A Car, and Penthouse of Palau for their support.



TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS				
AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	59	34	.634	—
Tampa Bay	57	37	.606	2 1/2
Boston	53	42	.558	7
Toronto	48	47	.505	12
Baltimore	30	64	.319	29 1/2
Central Division				
Chicago	52	42	.553	—
Detroit	49	44	.527	2 1/2
Minnesota	50	45	.526	2 1/2
Kansas City	41	53	.436	11
Cleveland	40	55	.421	12 1/2
West Division				
Texas	55	40	.579	—
Los Angeles	51	46	.526	5
Oakland	48	47	.505	7
Seattle	37	58	.389	18
NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
Atlanta	55	39	.585	—
New York	49	46	.516	6 1/2
Philadelphia	48	46	.511	7
Florida	46	48	.489	9
Washington	41	54	.432	14 1/2
Central Division				
St. Louis	54	41	.568	—
Cincinnati	53	43	.552	1 1/2
Chicago	43	53	.448	11 1/2
Milwaukee	43	53	.448	11 1/2
Houston	39	56	.411	15
Pittsburgh	34	60	.362	19 1/2
West Division				
San Diego	55	38	.591	—
San Francisco				
52	43	.547	4	
Colorado				
51	43	.543	4 1/2	
Los Angeles				
50	45	.526	6	
Arizona				
37	58	.389	19	
Yesterday's Games				
Houston 4, Chicago Cubs 3, 12 innings				
Pittsburgh 15, Milwaukee 3				
Florida 5, Colorado 2				
San Diego 6, Atlanta 4, 12 innings				
Washington 8, Cincinnati 5				
St. Louis 5, Philadelphia 1				
Arizona 4, N.Y. Mets 3, 14 innings				
L.A. Dodgers 2, San Francisco 0				
Tampa Bay 5, Baltimore 4				
N.Y. Yankees 10, L.A. Angels 6				
Minnesota 6, Cleveland 0				
Kansas City 5, Toronto 2				
Oakland 6, Boston 4				
Detroit 4, Texas 1				
Seattle 2, Chicago White Sox 1, 11 innings				
BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS				
LOCAL SCORES				
BUDWEISER CAGE STANDINGS				
CNMI Nationals				
6	0			
Hoegaarden IT&E				
7	1			
Bacardi Hi-5				
5	2			
Becks Sixsevenoh				
5	3			
Ol'Aces				
3	4			
Runnin' Rebels				
1	4			
Budweiser Saints				
1	5			
Michelob Sixers				
1	5			
Bud Ice Rollers				
1	7			

SABLAN

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tried their best but came up short.

The rest of the players that took part in the July tourney,

with their net scores in parenthesis, were: Mariano Fajardo (70); Pacific Islands Club F&B manager Steve Balakrishna (70); Joe Demapan (71); Vicente Aldan (73); Edward Sablan (74); Rick Kautz (74); Nick Sa-

blan (75); Ray San Nicolas (76); Das Krishnan (77); Jung Teack (79); Jess Castro (79); retired Superior Court presiding judge Edward Manibusan (79); Ray Salas (80); Frances Sablan (82); and Norbert Sablan (84).

Ogo off to Manila for URCC title shot

By **WALTER SUTHERLAND**
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REPORTER

Saipan's Jordan "Jungle Boy" Ogo left for the Philippines Wednesday, where he will fight for the pin-weight championship in URCC 17: Havoc set for this Saturday, July 24, the A-Avenue Events Center in Makati.

The Team Haga T fighter will take on the host country's No. 1 pin-weight fighter, Roy "The Punisher" Docyogen, in the 3pm bout of the Universal Reality Combat Champi-

onship-organized event.

Trench Tech president Cuki Alvarez personally handpicked Ogo for the fight. In the weeks leading up to the event, Ogo trained with Alvarez and his team six days a week at the Trench Tech Gym in preparation for his URCC title shot.

"This will not be an easy fight for Jordan, as he is going up against the Philippines' undisputed pin-weight champ, but he is excited for the oppor-

tunity and will definitely fight his heart out...Biba Marianas! Trench Tech wishes him all the best and good luck," said Alvarez.

Ogo is 21 years old, stands 5'4", weighs about 119 lbs and currently holds an undefeated mixed martial arts record with three wins—

two via submission and the other a stoppage. Strong for his size, Ogo is primarily a striker with an aggressive and unorthodox style.



Docyogen is the Philippines' current undisputed champion in the division. People around him claim that he never gives up and will do anything to keep his title.

He is also known as a very good striker and an excellent takedown artist. Docyogen is 25 years old, stands 5'5" and fights for Team Lakay Wushu. He boasts an overall MMA record of seven wins with no losses. There are 10 total matches on the URCC 17 fight card and the pin-weight division varies between 110-119 lbs.

Olopai takes RGA July Ace



Tars Olopai topped the Refaluwasch Golf Association July Ace of the Month Tournament last Sunday at the Coral Ocean Point, besting 14 other golfers.

Olopai, a 7-handicapper, shot a net 69 after showing consistency at the Agingan Point course with his identical 2-over par 38 scores on the front and back nines. With Olopai winning the July Ace, he now qualifies for the club championship, which he won last year.

The 2010 RGA Club Championship, which will be played later this year, will feature the 12 monthly Ace winners, including earlier qualifiers Yi Piao, Joe Saures, Nick Leon Guerrero, Carl Hocog, Xian Lai Cue, and Jesse Seman.

Olopai won the July Ace by only one stroke against the 10-handicapper Cue, who tallied a net 70 after firing a 39 on the front and 41 on the back. Jess Wabol, a 2-handicapper, finished third with his net 71, built on a 39 and 34 on the front and back nines, respectively.

Others who joined the weekend tournament, with their net scores in parenthesis, were Ulysis Kapileo (71), Dwaine Stephens (71), Piao (72), Saures (74), Joe Wabol (74), new member Steve Balakrishna (75), Seman (76),



Tom Tebuteb (76), Jordon Kosam (77), Asterio Tawanpiy (78), Manny Mangarero (80), and Tony Rogolifo (87).

Kosam won the closest to the pin contest in hole No. 7, while Olopai prevailed in hole No. 14.

Meanwhile, RGA would like to thank

the Kosam and Olopai families for hosting a dinner after the tournament. RGA added that monthly Ace winners wishing to join the club championship must compete in at least 10 events to qualify for the year-end tournament. **(Roselyn B. Monroyo)**

Nike Golf Demo Days at Laolao Bay Golf Resort for TOC

Golfers from around the region are a few days away from teeing off in the 15th Annual Tournament of Champions and organizers are releasing more details about some of the \$400,000 in prizes and features in store for this year's event.

A new sponsor for 2010 is Nike Golf. Prior to this year's TOC there will be Nike Demo Days on Thursday, July 29, and Friday, July 30, from 2pm to 6pm at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort Driving Range.

John Botelho from Nike Golf in Hawaii will be on Saipan especially for TOC and will personally work with golfers during the two-day demo event.

Participants can sample from a broad assortment of Nike clubs at The Range, while experts equipped with a launch monitor and computer will be in place to help golfers with their personal driver fittings while playing their practice rounds.

"I always look forward to my visits to Saipan," Botelho said. "Nike Golf

is so pleased to be able to be a part of the 15th Annual TOC and partner with Laolao Bay Golf Resort for our demo event."

Up for grabs next weekend as part of the TOC raffle, are a pair of Nike Victory Red STR8FIT Tour Drivers that experts have called "blend of technology and aesthetics." Valued at \$479 apiece, the Str8-Fit shaft adaptor built into the hosel provides 32 different clubhead positions for 32 possible shot shapes. This feature also plays a major role in optimizing launch conditions to maximize distance for each loft.

Nike Golf is also donating four custom TOC logoed Nike Tour Cart Golf Bags, perfect for the golfer who grooves the course on wheels rather than on foot. Competitors in next weekend's event also have a shot at taking their course style to new heights with the one of four TOC logoed Nike Departure Duffle Bags which will also be raffled to a lucky winner.

In addition to the Nike Demo Days,

the Laolao Bay Golf Resort also has plenty of activities in store during the build up to next weekend's tournament, including discounts on and off the course. Visiting TOC participants from Guam will enjoy playing rounds of golf at the local rate and receive 30-percent off of all non-sale items in the ProShop through the end of the TOC.

Golfers will also receive special discounted prices at The Range now through Friday, July 30 and The Grill Restaurant will have special lunch menus available on Friday, July 30, and Saturday, July 31.

The Laolao Bay Golf Resort has also put together special local room rate packages for the tournament for regular rooms as well as suites. Please call Lao Lao Bay at 236-8888 for more information and to book a room.

Entry forms for the 15th Annual Tournament of Champions are available at Laolao Bay Golf Resort, DFS Galleria, or online at www.tocsaipan.com. For more details, call Rose at 236-2511. **(PR)**

SEDA fetes Bud Light Cup winners

By **WALTER SUTHERLAND**
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REPORTER

Saipan Electronic Darts Association handed trophies and cash prizes to teams that topped 2010 SEDA Bud Light Cup during the awards banquet of the SEDA Winter/Spring 2010 season last Sunday at Charley's Cabaret in the Pacific Islands Club.

In addition to champion teams, SEDA also acknowledged 31 individual players who were promoted to higher divisions.

The D' Pirates Sports Bar's Black Stallions, made up of Jun Lapeciros, Jun Olita, Noel Montalbo, Joy Silva, and Robert Valdez, won the Bud Light Cup in the Masters Division.

In the A Division, DPSB Bud Brothers, made up of Willy Apresto, Jojo Guilas, Joel Linaogo, George Medina, Arthur Miranda, and Noel Unay, also took home a Bud Cup.

Larigie Achas, Salvador Garote, Albert Guevarra, Rod Lopez, Wilson Quiban, and Abelardo Sacramento of Jonny's Bar and Grill's Jonny's Walastic won the Bud Cup in the Tuesday B division.

The Flair Bar's Salut Balut, made up of Joe Camacho, Champ Hwang, Mongi, Cedric Palacios, Marvin Pangelinan, and Jed Zapanta, took home the Bud Cup in the Thursday B Fanihi Division.

The Trouble Shooters from JBC won the Bud Cup for the Thursday Flame Tree Division. Members include Sam Babauta, Tom Basa, Joe

Mafnas, Tim Mafnas, and Loran Pua.

Snickers N Tuna's Snicker Snickers Barracuda, made up of Ray Cepeda, Tito Laniyo, Bill Limes, Lee Roy Limes, Eric Palacios, Benji Tagabuel, and Patrick Taitano, won the Bud Cup for the Kingfisher C Division.

DPSB's Black Pearls, made up of Diony Camacho, Janice Camacho, Jay C. Sablan, Pedro Teregeyo, and David Terlaje, won the Bud Cup for the Chichirika C Division.

Sally Agoun, Mary-Lois Blaluk, Janice Camcho, Frances Magofna, Joy Maisoi, and Beverly Ngirmekur of Sande's Yakau from Sande Sports Bar & Grill were the Ladies Division Bud Cup winners.

Jayson John and Jun Baltazar, meanwhile, were both promoted out of the A division into the Masters group.

Leo Cabrera, Raffy David, Romy Intendez, Mario Jumalon, Cedric Palacios, Wilson Quiban, and Luis Ramos were all promoted from the B Division into the A Division.

Don Brennan, Norman Camacho, Patrick Castro, Manny Celis, Paul DL Guerrero, Sylvester Javier, Aida Laniyo, Joe Mafnas, Paciano Narisma, David Nekaifes, Ned Norita, Eric Palacios, Rey Pinangay, John Salas, Elcid Salazar, John Nicolas, Patrick Taitano, Joel Tudela, James Villacrusis, and Alex Villazon were all promoted from the C Division into the B Division. John C. Camacho and Yasu Irinaka, for their part, jumped all the way from the D Division into the B Division.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Team members of Sande's Yakau from Sande Sports Bar & Grill pose for a photo after winning first place in the Ladies Division of the SEDA Bud Light Cup.

Yankees power ahead early, beat Angels

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Ogo off to Manila for URCC title shot

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Mieko is favored in Micro Games

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Editor's note: This is the first article of a series of 11 that will feature CNMI teams set to compete in the 7th Micronesian Games in Palau.

With battle-tested Mieko Carey leading the CNMI Triathlon Team, the Commonwealth this time has a good chance of winning gold medals in the 7th Micronesian Games.

"With Mieko around, I would like to believe we have the advantage in the women's division race," CNMI Triathlon Team representative Joshua Berger said.

Carey and Berger and men's team members Lewie Tenorio, Kieran Daly, and Matthew Mancao will leave Saipan for the Micro Games on Aug. 4, five days before the triathlon competition at the Palau Pacific Resort in Arakebesang Island, Koror.

"I haven't checked the list of competitors, but I learned Guam is bringing in only one female

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Members of the CNMI Triathlon Team, from left, Lewie Tenorio, Matthew Mancao, Mieko Carey, Kieran Daly, and Joshua Berger, are in a jovial mood before a practice swim in the waters off the former A.J.'s Restaurant in Susupe.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Sablan tops SGA July Ace



Jose I. Sablan braved the heavy down-pour and beat 19 other die-hard golfers in winning Saipan Golfers Association's July Ace of the Month Tournament held recently at the Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort.

The veteran golfer and SGA treasurer came away with a net 66 to win the July competition.

Joe Deleon Guerrero and Department of Public Works Secretary Martin Sablan tugged on Jose I. Sablan's coattails the entire 18 holes and finished second and third with net scores of 67 and 68, respectively.

With the victory, Jose I. Sablan joins other SGA monthly winners of the year, which include Vince Rosario (January), Edward Sablan (February), Mariano Fajardo (March), Larry Deleon Guerrero (April), Steve Jang (May), and Jung Teack (June).

All will be competing this December for the 2010 Ace of Aces title and awards. The 19 other SGA players who took part in the July tourney

See SABLON on Page 34

IT&E edges Ol'Aces; Rollers finally win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Hoegaarden IT&E gave Richard Brostrom a good send-off gift, following its pulsating 63-61 win over the Bud Light Lime Ol'Aces in the 2010 Budweiser Men's Basketball League last Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The match was IT&E's last in the single round-robin regular season and probably the final game, too for Brostrom, who is leaving the island after 15 years of making the CNMI his home.

"I had a good run, especially in the early years of playing in the CNMI. I played more than 500 games and averaged in double figures in scoring in the

Hoegaarden IT&E's Kirk Schuler goes for a left handed layup against the Bud Light Lime Ol'Aces' Marvin Rabauliman during the second quarter of their game in the Budweiser caging last Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



first few years of playing on the island," said Brostrom, who saw action both in open division and masters caging in indoor and outdoor courts and won a couple of championships.

The former NCAA Division II player is leaving Hoegaarden IT&E with the league's second best record—a 7-1 slate, just a loss behind the league-leading Bud Light CNMI Nationals (6-0). Brostrom played for Hoegaarden IT&E when the team led most of the way in their game against the Nationals before the latter escaped with an 87-84 win in overtime.

Against the Ol'Aces, it was Hoegaarden IT&E's turn to pull off a close win.

Elmer Esdrelon scored 12 straight points in the fourth quarter to lift Hoegaarden IT&E to the two-point win. His triple going into the final three minutes of the game put Hoegaarden IT&E back in the lead, 60-58, after the Ol'Aces grabbed the driver's seat in the early minutes of the fourth period.

The Ol'Aces then tied the

See IT&E on Page 34

7 pairs unbeaten in badminton tourney



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Noli Santos, seen here with teammate Aries Cordero in their men's doubles B game last Saturday, is also entered in the men's doubles AB and he and teammate Rey Bulaon swept their two games in the Tan Holdings tournament last Sunday at the REM Center in Gualo Rai.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Seven teams remained undefeated in the Tan Holdings Doubles Badminton Competition 2010 after Day 2 of the tournament last Sunday at the REM Center in Gualo Rai.

Leading the list was the duo

of Rey Bulaon and Noli Santos, who played back-to-back games in the men's doubles AB last Sunday and went 2-for-2. Bulaon and Santos first downed Dick Guintu and Roger Vales, 21-11, 21-14,

and then needed three sets to win their second match of the

See 7 PAIRS on Page 34

Tan Holdings